FOR Sunburn
FOR Chapped Hands
HILL MANSFIELD'S apillaris
POSITIVE CURE
OTHER REMEDIES FAIL.
and Itching Diseases
ful. Of all kinds, Scalp and Skin, 1 to 50 years standing,
d by 100s of Physicians
ning, Restoring, Soothing and Healing Balm. Sold
NDED at Sweet's Pharmacy, 39 Park Row, New York, New
Boston, to any person not satisfied after 30 days trial.
lans' Endorsements sent to any Applicant. 36617

FOR Luxuriant Hair
FOR Salt Rheum
FOR Eczema
FOR Scaldhead
FOR Baby Humors

Non-Resident Taxes of the Town of Rome.

In the town of Rome and county of Kennebec, for the year 1886. The following list of taxes on real estate of non-resident owners, in the town of Rome, for the year 1886, in bills committed to Levi Whitcomb, collector of said town, on the 21st day of August, 1886, and afterwards to John R. Farnham, in place of Levi Whitcomb, resigned, and has been returned by said John R. Farnham to me as remaining unpaid on the 30th day of August, 1887, by his certificate of that date, and now remain unpaid; and notice is hereby given that if the said taxes and interest and charges are not paid into the treasury of said town, within eighteen months from the date of the commitment at said bills, so much of the real estate taxed as will be sufficient to pay the amount due therefor, including interest and charges, will, without further notice, be sold at public auction at my house, in said town, on the 21st day of February, 1888, at 2 o'clock, P. M.:

1st. Moses Mosher. Lot of land bounded on the north by land of Thomas Mosher, south by the road east by land of Joseph Watson's heirs, west by Robbins' mill stream, so called, containing 30 acres, more or less, valued at $300; tax, $18.00.

2d. Emery O. Rose. Lot of land bounded on the north by Chas. Fairbanks, east by county road, south by land of Aaron Thurston, west by land of Betsey Beasey, containing 100 acres, more or less, valued at $——; tax, $10.30.

3d. Jarius Dolloff. Lot of land bounded on the north by county road, east by Long Pond, containing 60 acres, more or less; tax, $5.40.

4th. Samuel Whitehouse. Lot of land bounded on the north by land of Wm. Hill, south and east by land of James Morrill, containing 50 acres, more or less; tax, $3.00.

5th. David Eills' Heirs. Lot of land bounded on the north by land of S. W. Clement, west by land of Walter Warren, south by land of David Estes, west by land of John Hammond, containing 50 acres, more or less, $.90

6th. Warren Chapman. Lot of land bounded on the north by land of C. Foster, east by E. Foster, south by A. Tracy, west by county road; tax, $3.60.

7th. Asa Tracy's Heirs. Lot of land bounded on the north by town line, south by land of John Hammond; tax, $15.30.

8th. Stephen Blaisdell. Lot of timber land bounded on the north by North Pond, lying near Samuel W. Clement's; tax, $5.70.

9th. Vaughn Heirs. Lot of land known as the Vaughn lot, bounded on the north by land of J. E. Farnham, east by land of M. H. Blaisdell; tax, $.90.

M. H. BLAISDELL, Treas. of Rome.

Oct. 14, 1887. 3

SHERIFF'S SALE.

KENNEBEC, ss: Nov. 16, 1887.

Taken on execution, John C. Dennis and Ezekiel Dennis vs. Fred B. Dolloff, and will be sold at public auction at the office of E. W. Whitehouse in Augusta, in said county, on Monday, Dec. 26th, 1887, at 10 o'clock A. M., all the right, title and interest that said Fred B. Dolloff has, or had on the 25d day of Nov. 1886, when the same was attached on said writ, in and to the following real estate situated in Mt. Vernon, in said county, and bounded and described as follows, to wit: Northerly by the road leading from the Farmington road, so called, to Belgrade Mills; easterly by land now or formerly owned by F. Davis; southerly by land now or formerly owned by Nathaniel Leighton, and land now or formerly owned by John L. Leighton, and westerly by said Farmington road; containing about eighty acres, more or less, and being one-fourth part in common and undivided of all and the same premises conveyed by Jarius Dolloff to Rosina N. Dolloff, by deed dated January 10, 1885, and recorded in Kennebec Registry of Deeds, Book 338, Page 40.

316 C. R. McFADDEN, *Sheriff.*

Commissioners' Notice.

The undersigned, Commissioners appointed by the Judge of Probate for Kennebec County, to receive and examine the claims of creditors against the estate of Sarah D. Nash, late of Augusta, deceased, represented insolvent, give notice that six months from the tenth day of October, 1887, are allowed said creditors to present and exhibit their claims, and that they will be in session for the purpose of receiving said claims at the dwelling house of said deceased, in Augusta, Maine, at ten o'clock in the forenoon of each day, on Saturday the tenth day of December, and on Saturday the 10th day of March next.

CHARLES GREENLEAF, } *Commissioners.*
HENRY M. PISHON, } 332

Notice of Foreclosure.

Clarence H. Gilmore of Sidney, in the County of Kennebec and State of Maine, by his mortgage deed dated September 28th, 1885, recorded in the Registry of Deeds for Kennebec County, Book 334, Page 236, conveyed to me, the undersigned, a certain lot or parcel of land situated in said Sidney, bounded and described as follows, to wit: Beginning on the North by land of William F. Purington; on the West by land of George Henry Weeks; on the South by land of Josepha Trasks, and on the East by land of Turner Gilmore; and on the East by land of Turner Gilmore, containing fifty acres, more or less, and being the same premises described in deed of John Estes to late C. R. Trask, dated February 9, 1876, recorded in Kennebec Registry of Deeds, Book 306, Page 361, and in deed of E. W. Whitehouse, as administrator, to said Clarence H. Gilmore, dated September 26, 1881, to which deeds reference is hereby made.

And the conditions of said mortgage have been broken, by reason whereof I, the undersigned, claim a foreclosure.

JONAS BUTTERFIELD, by S. & L. TITCOMB, his attorneys.

Nov. 15, 1887. 332

Notice of Foreclosure.

Joshua T. Gilmore and Clarence H. Gilmore, both of Sidney, in the County of Kennebec and State of Maine, by their mortgage deed dated September 28th, 1885, recorded in the Registry of Deeds for Kennebec County, in Book 334, Page 235, conveyed to me, the undersigned, in mortgage, certain real estate situated in said Sidney, and bounded and described as follows, to wit: Being the Homestead place of said Joshua T. Gilmore and said Clarence H. Gilmore, and bounded on the North by land of Charles F. Philbrick; on the East by the New Rome road, so called; on the South by land of Henry G. Williams, and on the West by land of late U. S. Tracy—Heirs—to Joshua T. Purington. Containing 55 acres more or less, and being the same premises conveyed by Edward E. Williams to said Joshua T. Gilmore, dated May 30, 1885, and recorded in Kennebec County Registry of Deeds, Book 332, Page 365. And the conditions of said mortgage have been broken, by reason whereof I, the undersigned, claim a foreclosure.

JONAS BUTTERFIELD, by S. & L. TITCOMB, his attorneys.

Nov. 15, 1887. 332

KENNEBEC COUNTY.—*In Probate Court at Augusta, on the second Monday of November, 1887.*

E. W. WHITEHOUSE, Guardian of JEFFERSON M. CLARK of Augusta, insane, having petitioned for license to sell the lands of said deceased:

ORDERED, That notice thereof be given three weeks successively prior to the second Monday of December next, in the Maine Farmer, a newspaper printed in Augusta, that all persons interested may attend at a Court of Probate then to be held at Augusta, and show cause, if any, why the prayer of said petition should not be granted.

H. S. WEBSTER, *Judge.*

Attest: HOWARD OWEN, *Register.*

KENNEBEC COUNTY.—*In Court of Probate at Augusta, on the second Monday of November, 1887.*

PATRICK McGRATH, widower of MARY McGRATH, late of Augusta, deceased, having presented his petition for allowance out of the personal estate of said deceased, and MARY E. BRYANT, Administratrix, having presented her claim for services:

ORDERED, That notice thereof be given three weeks successively prior to the second Monday of December next, in the Maine Farmer, a newspaper printed in Augusta, that all persons interested may attend at a Probate Court then to be holden at Augusta, and show cause, if any, why the prayer of said petition should not be granted.

H. S. WEBSTER, *Judge.*

Attest: HOWARD OWEN, *Register.*

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, That the subscriber has been duly appointed Executor of the last will and testament of CLARISSA R. HAYWARD, late of Readfield, in the County of Kennebec, deceased, testate, and has undertaken that trust by giving bond as the law directs: All persons, therefore, having demands against the estate of said deceased, are desired to exhibit the same for settlement; and all indebted to said estate are required to make immediate payment to

Nov. 14, 1887. 2* CHARLES HAYWARD.

KENNEBEC COUNTY.—*In Probate Court, held at Augusta, on the second Monday of November, 1887.*

A CERTAIN INSTRUMENT, purporting to be the last will and testament of SAMUEL KIMBALL, late of Belgrade, in said county, deceased, having been presented for probate:

ORDERED, That notice thereof be given three weeks successively prior to the second Monday of December next, in the Maine Farmer, a newspaper printed in Augusta, that all persons interested may attend at a Court of Probate then to be holden at Augusta, and show cause, if any, why the said instrument should not be proved, approved and allowed as the last will and testament of the said deceased.

H. S. WEBSTER, *Judge.*

Attest: HOWARD OWEN, *Register.* 3*

KENNEBEC COUNTY.—*In Probate Court at Augusta, on the second Monday of November, 1887.*

A CERTAIN INSTRUMENT, purporting to be the last will and testament of CHRISTIANA J. BUTTERFIELD, late of Sidney, in said county, deceased, having been presented for probate:

ORDERED, That notice thereof be given three weeks successively prior to the second Monday of December next, in the Maine Farmer, a newspaper printed in Augusta, that all persons interested may attend at a Court of Probate, then to be holden at Augusta, and show cause, if any, why the said instrument should not be proved, approved and allowed as the last will and testament of the said deceased.

H. S. WEBSTER, *Judge.*

Attest: HOWARD OWEN, *Register.*

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The final account having been presented of the late Franklin Houdlette, Executor on the estate of Lydia T. Nason, late of Litchfield, deceased, and petition for the appointment of W. S. Choate, Trustee on said estate:

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TRAVELING AGENTS.

G. S. ATER. J. E. PRATT. J. W. KELLOGG.

Maine Farmer.

AGRICULTURE, MECHANIC ARTS, LITERATURE, NEWS, &c.

BADGER & MANLEY, Publishers and Proprietors. "OUR HOME, OUR COUNTRY, AND OUR BROTHER MAN." TERMS: Two Dollars per annum, in Advance.

VOL. LVI. AUGUSTA, MAINE, THURSDAY, DECEMBER 8, 1887. No. 4.

Farmers' Institutes.

Franklin county, at Strong, Dec. 15.
Penobscot county, Dec. 27.
Kennebec county, at Clinton, Dec. 29.
Kennebec county, at Sidney, Dec. 30.
Androscoggin county, at Turner, Jan. 3.
York county, at Hollis, Jan. 5.
York county, at Springvale, Jan. 6.
Lincoln county, Jan. 24.
Knox county, at Rockland, Jan. 28.
Cumberland county, Jan. 31 and Feb. 1.
Oxford county, at Norway, Feb. 3.

Some agricultural societies are almost smothered with life members, is the expressive way that Maj. Alvord puts it.

Farmers in judging agricultural writers and speakers, should bear in mind the fact that the truest friends of the farmer are not necessarily "those who riot in fulsome praise." So says the *New England Farmer*, and it is not wide of the truth.

One active member of the Board of Agriculture, whose institutes for the year have been held, writes that he already has a scheme blocked out for another year. No trouble about the success of institutes where such attention is given to the matter.

Some of the agricultural papers are weekly filled with several columns, solid, of "horse gossip" they call it. A more suitable name would be horse twaddle; and it is about as instructive to a thoughtful, intelligent reader, as such material usually is found to be when the subject matter is less important.

Dr. Cressey of Hartford, Conn., who lectured before farmers' institutes last winter in Maine, with such acceptance, gave a lecture at Ploughman Hall, Boston, Saturday, Nov. 19, on the Germ Theory of Disease. The lecture gave evidence of a profound knowledge of the subject. The Doctor is down on the programme for the winter meeting of the Board of Agriculture in his own State, for a lecture on the Natural History of Tuberculosis.

People say and claim some very foolish things when they get to "riding a hobby." It is not strange that some agricultural literature is sneered at by the skeptical farmer as unreliable and misleading. There is too much of it that is so. These agricultural "fellers" that talk farming, better never ride hobbies. We have been reminded of this by seeing the claims set down by men who ought to be sensible, and by papers that ought to know better, of the effect of dishorning bulls. If any of these distributors of bovine lore had ever smelled the soil or led a bull, they would have learned that neither the strength nor the mischievousness lies wholly in real wit, in and to the following real estate situated in Mt. Vernon, in said county, and bounded and described as follows, to wit: Northerly by the road leading from the Farmington road, so called, to Belgrade Mills; easterly by land now or formerly owned by F. Davis; southerly by land now or formerly owned by Nathaniel Leighton, and land now or formerly owned by John L. Leighton, and westerly by said Farmington road; containing about eighty acres, more or less, and being one-fourth part in common and undivided of all and the same premises conveyed by Jarius Dolloff to Rosina N. Dolloff, by deed dated January 10, 1885, and recorded in Kennebec Registry of Deeds, Book 338, Page 40.

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CHARLES GREENLEAF, } *Commissioners.*
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G. S. ATER. J. E. PRATT. J. W. KELLOGG.

Not Called For.

From our exchanges it is learned that some of the officers of the New Hampshire State Grange are advocating the organization of a New England Grange Fair Association, having for its object an annual exhibition which shall embrace all of the New England States. Ambition, ordinarily, is to be admired, but we would ask the enthusiastic patrons of our neigboring State to first consider candidly whether another fair of the kind is actually called for by the people, or even needed. We have one New England fair now, and which does not always find its patronage strewn with roses; and there is another fair open to New England, which for the present is quiet retirement for the reason that two such exhibitions cannot occupy the same space at the same time. Now, coolly, where is there a place for a third?

Our neighbors over the way have held two fairly successful Grange State fairs, and for the time have displaced the work of their State Agricultural Society. If they can continue to run a fair better than the old society could, and can draw out a better exhibition, it ought to satisfy any reasonable ambition, at least for the present. They have a job on hand at home, if they succeed in doing even that.

No, we certainly don't fairs enough now, and could probably accomplish quite as much for the promotion of agricultural interests, if some we now have were lopped off. It would be a more modest way for us to make our influence as patrons felt, and probably quite as effectual in the end, to labor for the improvement of the working machinery of the fairs we now have. If we can run them better, and make them cleaner, purer and more acceptable than as now handled, then put that kind of management into them, and they will thus be made the model we are after, and thus become not only a Grange fair, but a public fair as well, and all in one. There is no difficulty in grafting on Grange ideas and Grange principles to existing organizations when grangers set out to do it, and many times will be found a better course than to take forcible possession of the field. We believe this should be the attitude of the Grange, in the main, towards existing agricultural organizations. At any rate, spare us from more fairs.

Wisconsin Experiment Station.

The experiment stations established in different States are doing lots of good work. As aids to a reliable knowledge of the best practices in crop production, and also of feeding those crops out to stock on the farm, they have been doing more for the farmer than any other instrumentality among us. Through their teaching, rapid strides of progress are being made. Error is being driven out, and sound practice is taking its place. We have been forcibly impressed with these facts on looking over the fourth annual report of the agricultural experiment station connected with the University of Wisconsin, a copy of which has been received through the courtesy of Prof. W. A. Henry, the director.

This station is doing some of the best of work. It isn't every student of science that is fitted to direct one of these stations. Some of them—too many—soar far above and delve too deep for agriculture in practice. Of course we want to know everything, but what we want first to know is that which immediately affects production of whatever kind. Prof. Henry comprehends the situation completely, and instead of frittering his time away in diffusive studies of a thousand and one finespun matters so remote from the wants of the present time as to be of no avail in productive affairs, he comes right down to the problems which the farmers of to-day are obliged to wrestle with, and lends to their solution the aid of a mind trained for the purpose. Hence he is experimenting on such every day matters as feeding waste products of the dairy; ensilage vs. fodder corn; the value of manure from stock on the farm; experiments with corn fodder; cost of making beef from dairy stock; cooked vs. uncooked food for swine; feeding for fat and for lean, and other subjects of a like nature. The report is a volume of 200 pages, and contains a full record of the work carried on. We refer, at this time, to only one of the experiments found on record, but find others of such importance as to call for attention at another time.

The experiment was tried of feeding pigs with food excessively rich in albuminoids, as compared with food rich in carbhydrates and poor in albuminoids. The question for solution was, will the character of the food influence the character of the bone and muscle of the hog? The force of this question comes from the fact that late years in the west the business of pork raising is beset with many difficulties. The pigs at birth are delicate and die easily; the sows are often but indifferent mothers; while animals of all ages fall easy victims to any contagious malady. The theory has been advanced that this comes from a too close confinement to a corn diet. Once knowing that foods of different compositions do affect the frame and flesh of animals differently, and how and why, we are in a position to go ahead and build up a better system of swine husbandry. Corn is excessively rich in the carbohydrates or heat and fat formers. Dried blood, skim milk and shorts are each comparatively rich in albuminoids or muscle making material.

THE EXPERIMENTS.

Out of a litter of eight pigs, six were selected, which were even in size and form, for the trial, when they were 100 days old. Up to the beginning of the trial, the pigs were all fed alike, from the same mixture consisting of shorts, corn meal, skim milk and buttermilk. The pigs were cross-bred Jersey Reds and Poland Chinas. At the beginning of the trial the six were divided into two lots of three each, and to Lot A was fed a ration consisting of one part of dried blood, six parts of shorts and fourteen parts of skim milk by weight. To Lot B was fed all the fine ground corn meal they could properly consume. Water was freely provided for each lot, and each had the run of a small yard back of the feeding pen, in which exercise could be taken; all went on with remarkable uniformity from first to last, with no accident of any kind to either lot during the whole period of 136 days. The digestible matter in the food fed to the two lots was as follows:

	Protein. Pounds.	Carbhydrates. Pounds.
Total digestible matter fed to Lot A	429	853
Total digestible matter fed to Lot B	153	1,106

It will be seen that each lot received about the same number of pounds of actual food, but that the proportions of the protein to the carbhydrates varied greatly. Protein goes to make muscle, though it may be used for heat and fat in the body. The carbhydrates (starch, sugar, etc.,) cannot make muscle in the body of an animal, though they may save it from waste and decay, but are used for maintaining the bodily heat and for making fat. Our corn-fed hogs then were fed a very fattening food, while the other lot were given a large amount of muscle—(or lean meat) making material.

Upon being taken to the block, each dressed hog was laid on his back, and first the head was severed, next the body was cut square across between the fifth and sixth ribs, and again at the loin or small of the back. A painter was employed to sketch the appearance and disposition of the fat and lean meat as exposed by the cuts. The appearance of the several sections of the hogs fed on the different foods is shown in the report by colored lithographic illustrations, thus giving to the eye a graphic representation of the effects of these different foods, and plainly showing the much larger development of muscle or lean meat in the protein fed hogs.

IMPORTANT CONTRASTS IN WEIGHTS.

The following table gives the most important facts in the case, the weights being of three hogs in each lot:

	Lot A. Fed for Fat.	Lot B. Fed for Lean.
Total live weight	669½ lbs	501½ lbs
Total dressed weight	541½ lbs	413 lbs
Total external fat	156 lbs	105 lbs
Total lean meat	244 lbs	178½ lbs
Total weight of bone	41 lbs	29 lbs
Total weight of spleens	16 oz	12 oz
Total weight of liver	96 oz	109½ oz
Total weight of blood	206 oz	180 oz
Breaking strain of thigh bones	4,530 lbs	2,955 lbs

From these results this conclusion is made: That a system of feeding which robs the hog of half his blood and half the natural strength of his bones, and produces other violent changes, is a most natural one, and must, if persisted in, end in giving us a race of animals which will be unsatisfactory to all concerned. From parents thus weakened must come descendants that will fall easy victims to disease and disaster. Nor is this all. The meat from such animals can hardly be of that favor and composition satisfactory to the consumer. If there is a measure of fact in what Prof. Henry seems to have plainly proved his work must have the effect to lead to a more intelligent feeding of our domestic animals and thus prove of unmeasured value to the farmer.

In justice it should be said that a similar experiment to these was carried on several years ago by Prof. Sanborn, formerly of New Hampshire, and with similar results. In fact, Prof. Henry states that it was the earlier work of Prof. Sanborn which suggested the trial, the importance of which he deemed sufficient to call for corroboration.

Plant for a Name.

The plant handed us by Mr. Amos H. Church of this city, was duly received, but in a crushed condition. It was forwarded to Prof. Harvey of the State College for identification, and from the following reply has been received. Mr. Church informs us that in the field where this plant appeared, there is only here and there a spot of the herds-grass and clover he supposed he was sowing, but instead appeared this weed. The seed was purchased of parties in this city.

ORONO, ME., Nov. 25, 1887.

Mr. Z. A. Gilbert: Dear Sir: The plant you mail for determination is *Plantago lanceolata, L.*, commonly known as English Plantain, Ribgrass or Ripplegrass. The weed is naturalized from Europe and now widely distributed in this country, especially eastward. I have seen it, however, growing inland as far as S. W. Missouri and N. W. Arkansas. The plant puts up grooved angled scapes, often two feet long and several from the same root, which bear short, thick, dense spikes at the top. *The specimen sent is not in fruit.* The plant is hardy, grows thick and matted and takes the ground. The root is perennial, and the only way to eradicate it would be to plow it under and cultivate the field for a time. The seed of the plant, I should judge from the letter you sent, was used to adulterate the clover or herds-grass seed. It is hard to understand how an intelligent, practical farmer could be so deceived, as the plantain seed is hollowed on the inner face and does not resemble the seeds of either the herds-grass or clover. I have seen the plant growing sparingly about Orono.

Resp'y, F. L. HARVEY.

The plant was also submitted to Dr. Lapham, whose investigations were similar to those of Prof. Harvey.

More of the Fat-Stock Show.

The prizes at the Chicago show, for greatest average gain per day of the animal's life, including weight at birth, were awarded as below—the figures (pounds) telling the usual story of steadily falling off in gain as the animal grows older. The figures are taken from a condensed report of the show, found in the *Country Gentleman:*

Three Years.

1. Fowler & Van Natta, Hereford & S. H. cross..... 1.67
2. J. N. Cline, 15-16 Shorthorn..... 1.61

Two Years.

1. Moffatt & Bro., Pure Shorthorn..... 2.39
2. B. S. Eldridge, ¾ Shorthorn..... 2.13

One Year.

1. S. S. Brown's Sons, 15-16 Shorthorn..... 2.66
2. Overton Lea, Sussex and Shorthorn cross..... 2.26

Calves.

1. E. Waddell, Pure Shorthorn..... 2.39
2. J. A. Funkhouser, Hereford & S. H. cross..... 2.19

These results are of much interest as showing the gradually and surely lessening gain of the animals as they advance in age.

The Drive Well Patent.

This patent, which has been a source of annoyance to farmers in many parts of the country, was declared void last week, as will be seen from the following Washington telegram of Nov. 14th:

What is known as the drive-well patent, which has been several times before the supreme court, and which has heretofore been sustained, was to-day declared invalid in an opinion by Justice Blatchford, based upon the record in case No. 16—Andrews, Green, and others against George Hovey—brought here by an appeal from the United States circuit court for the southern district of Iowa. This court holds that the fact, now made to appear for the first time in the drive-well litigation, that the invention was for the first time used in public at Cortlandt, N. Y., by others than Green, more than two years before the application for the patent was made, is a fact which is fatal to the patent's validity.

—The celebrated Cream Brook farm in Stetson has been sold to A. S. Rand of Thorndike.

Keep the Best Calves.

It is the custom with a majority of dairymen to sell off their calves and replenish their stock by the purchase of cows in the market, where the value of the cow for their use can be estimated only by her appearance. This is not a judicious plan, for it must often result in disappointment, no matter how promising the animal may be. A much more satisfactory course, and the one adopted by the most successful dairymen, is to select the heifer calves from the best milkers in the herd and raise them to take the place of the cows sold off because of age, or accident, or because no longer found to be profitable. Where pains is taken to secure a good bull from a superior milking strain to be used in the herd, selections can be made from the calves that, when properly raised, may be depended upon to prove profitable milkers, and thus the herd be improved from year to year. It will cost less to raise the calves than to buy cows, and the result be much more satisfactory. The most successful farmers in Maine to-day are those who are raising the greatest number of heifer calves and reducing their stock as room is needed by the sale of the older cows. Here is profit.

Measuring Hay.

Will the editor, or some of the readers of the *Farmer*, please give the rule for ascertaining the quantity of hay in a bay or scaffold? I saw the directions in the *Farmer* several years since, and hope some one will give the required rule now, and oblige a SUBSCRIBER.

Winslow, Nov. 22.

[The nearest estimate of a ton of hay by measure in the mow is four hundred to five hundred cubic feet. It requires, however, the exercise of good judgment to go with the measurement of hay. It makes a wide difference whether the hay is in a bay, wide and deep, or in a narrow and shallow mow. So, too, there is a wide variation in the weight of different kinds of hay. In a large, deep bay four hundred feet of medium English hay will weigh a ton, while in a common mow it will take five hundred feet. If the hay is coarse, larger measure will be required, and if very coarse the party who buys it better not trust to measurements.

Resolutions of respect and condolence passed by Piscataquis Pomona Grange, on the death of Sister Lizzie M. Leland, wife of Brother H. A. Leland, Lecturer of Sangerville:

Whereas our Divine Master, in His infinite wisdom, has taken from our fraternity our beloved Sister, Lizzie M. Leland, worthy member of Central Grange, and member of Piscataquis Pomona, therefore,

Resolved, That in the death of Sister Leland we are called to part with a true and faithful matron—one who ever practiced the Golden Rule, and was ever in accord with Grange efforts based upon those principles, and one who rejoiced in the abundance of every blessing; a kind mother, a sister who sought to attain to a nobler womanhood by pursuing faith in God through the varying experiences of her life; by adorning hope for the onward movement of the precepts and purposes of the Order, and by charity and deeds of kindness; by constantly dispensing charity in word and deed, and by so discharging the duties which rested upon her as wife, mother and matron as to be noted for her fidelity. And to secure to the loss of her choice and greetings, and of her gentle presence, which was always a benediction of peace and good will, we can but commend the sorrowing husband and children of her character—making the sentiment expressed in the hymn, "Blessed are the dead" our sheet a short time before her decease, our own.

"What will it matter? Naught, if I
Go where the blessed ones are gone?
Gloomy or gladdened, leads to God;
Questioning not the how, the why,
Calmly I fall meekly I die."

Resolved, That to the bereaved husband, sons and daughters, and aged mother, mourning the loss of the light of their home, we extend brotherly love and heartfelt sympathy; trusting that the memory of the loving companion, the fond ministrations of the devoted wife, mother and daughter may prove a source of comfort and help; and that our Brother and his family may be sustained now and in all the vicissitudes of life by the last words of the dear departed, "Will all there meet me."

MRS. C. J. HERRING,
MRS. D. LEWIS HOLMES, } *Committee on Resolutions.*
MRS. C. C. CHAMBERLAIN,

Communications.

For the Maine Farmer.

Awards and Experts at the Maine State Fair.

Many of us exhibitors of stock at the last Maine State Fair knew, then and there, that Mr. J. R. Day was very much disappointed, because he was not awarded first prize on his year old Holstein bull, our Orono, of Highmoor.* As I was one of the judges on Holsteins at the Bangor fair, I was, perhaps, particularly interested in the awards of the Lewiston expert, Mr. Winslow, and the reasons given by him for his decision in this article to express any opinion for or against Mr. Winslow's judgment, but I will venture the remark that, as the year old Holstein bulls stood in the State Lewiston fair were *all* such exceptionally fine ones, I should have been very likely to have committed the same *mistake* and given the first to the second in point, under the rule last quoted, have objected to the judge, and had him removed and another appointed, for he had not as yet made a single award. And the gentleman referred to above was talking his best to the judge in order to beat me, so much so as to completely stop all proceedings in the show ring for half an hour, I should

Maine Farmer.

Augusta, December 8, 1887.

TERMS OF THE MAINE FARMER.

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☞Postage free to all subscribers.

Collectors' Notices.

MR. C. S. AYER will call upon our subscribers in Cumberland county during December.

MR. I. C. LIBBY of Burnham, our cattle reporter, is authorized to receipt for money's and receive subscriptions for the paper.

MR. J. W. KELLOGG will call upon our subscribers in Aroostook county during December.

FRIEND J. H. PRATT will call upon our subscribers in Kennebec county on west side, during December.

MR. E. A. DUTTON will call upon our subscribers in Kennebec county (east side) during December.

We are informed that Mr. Payson Tucker, Manager of the Maine Central, has about decided to establish the proposed stock yards at a point between Bangor and Hermon.

Hon. S. W. Matthews will deliver the first lecture in the academy course at Hampden some time this month. His lecture will be upon matters connected with his work as Commissioner of Labor Statistics.

W. A. Kay, agent for the Houlton Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals, makes the following report for the year: Cases investigated, 21; worthless horses shot, 5; horses taken off the street, sheltered and fed, 11; cows taken care of and fed, 1; rabid dogs shot, 1; persons taken before the courts for cruelty, 3; paid into the county treasury in fines and costs about $50.

Gov. Bodwell, while on his way to Rockland, on the morning train, Monday, was taken ill at the station at Brunswick, and was brought back home to Hallowell on the afternoon train. His disease is congestion of the lungs, the result of a severe cold. He passed a most restless night, Monday, and was a very sick man Tuesday, but rested well all through that night. Yesterday there seemed to be a marked improvement, and if no new complications arise, he will recover.

The farmers of Hollis, Buxton, Dayton, and Waterboro are making efforts to establish a corn packing factory at Bar Mills. A. L. Phinney of Westbrook, agrees to fit up and run an establishment, if the farmers of the vicinity will erect a suitable building, exempt it from taxation and guarantee to raise three hundred acres of corn each season. An adjourned meeting of the farmers interested in the enterprise was held at Buxton, Monday. A committee was appointed to solicit subscriptions to the stock for the erection of the building. One hundred and seventy-five acres of sweet corn have already been pledged, and it is believed the amount can readily be raised to three hundred acres.

A car sweeper of the Boston & Maine railroad has reason to pleasantly remember ex-Governor Robie. Mr. Robie boarded the train for Boston, and discovered, on arriving there, that he had lost a bank draft of $170 and about $20 in bills, and remembered that he crumpled the draft and bills together and put them in his pocket before leaving home. He thought he must have lost them on the train and telegraphed, asking for a search. The car sweeper, after going carefully through the train, sifted the sweepings and found the draft and bills rolled up together. Mr. Robie, when the property was restored, kept only the draft which was valueless to anyone but himself, and gave the money to the lucky finder.

The annual meeting of the Executive Committee of the Maine State Pomological Society was held in this city Friday, the President, C. S. Pope of Manchester, presiding. All the accounts were adjusted, and the premium list, amounting to $550, was ordered paid. This list will be placed in the hands of the Treasurer, D. H. Knowlton of Farmington, who will at once proceed to pay the same. It was decided to hold the annual winter meeting at New Gloucester, on Wednesday and Thursday, February 22d and 23d, 1888. This is a good point for a meeting, and it will be a successful one. The transactions of the society for 1887, just published, is an interesting volume. The affairs of the society are in a prosperous condition.

An old lumber operator on the Kennebec tells a reporter that, in his judgment, there is more standing timber in the forest area of Maine to-day than there was a quarter of a century ago, and this in spite of the havoc of the great November gale of a few years ago which ruined so many lumber tracts. This is owing to the care exercised in cutting, especially by the many operators who are also the land owners. The preservation of the Maine forests has occupied the attention of leading lumber operators for many years, or since fears were expressed that the lumber producing sections were being stripped of their most valuable timber. Every tree now felled has been selected with discrimination by an experienced woodsman, and none is marked for the axe unless fully matured.

We must be pardoned for copying this from among the many good notices given the *Farmer* on its entering its fifty-sixth volume:

The *Maine Farmer* has begun Volume 56. It is one of the best of our numerous agricultural exchanges. It is never carping nor with vagaries, but believes in experiment and progress, and in holding fast that which is good. It has a strong State pride always on tap, and has been as great a power for the prosperity of Maine during the half century that the State could boast. It tells us always about Maine farmers and what they are doing, has one of the best horse editors and one of the best cattle editors to be found in the country, is printed in large type on first-rate paper, and the only thing about it, as an exchange, that we have to regret is, that we can't cut and carry from our agricultural sheets usually make mincemeat of it) and have it, too. We have seriously thought of asking for two copies on exchange, and would do so, if we could render an equivalent.—*Lowell Journal.*

That wide-awake, progressive daily paper, *The Lewiston Journal*, is out with its prospectus for 1888. The *Evening Journal* is especially to be commended to such as wish a Maine city newspaper. Its news, both local and general, is always late, fresh and complete. Every event of interest in Maine is fully reported. Besides the news of the associated press, its staff correspondents, by special use of the telegraph, give the happenings of the whole State in each evening issue. The price is $7.00 a year by mail. The *Saturday Journal*, at points reached by the afternoon and evening trains, is becoming very popular. Terms $1.50 a year. The *Wednesday Journal*, for such as desire a cheap paper, is furnished at $1.00 a year. The Weekly, which embraces the cream of the Daily, is a paper of sixty-four long columns, most of which is filled with reading matter complete in all its departments, and is afforded at the low price of $2 a year.

Hon. Wm. T. Haines is rapidly stocking his farm in Waterville with fine blooded stock. He has recently purchased of Smiths, Powell & Lamb, the noted breeders of Syracuse, N. Y., a young Holstein-Friesian bull of the Netherland Aaggie and Crown Jewel family, the sire of which is Netherland Prince. This bull will not be two years old until the twenty-first day of June next, and now weighs 1100 pounds. It will be kept on Mr. Haines' farm in Waterville for the improvement of stock. A limited number of cows may be engaged at three dollars each. Mr. Haines has also bought a full-blooded imported cow of the above breed, which is in calf to the bull "Neptune," who is full brother to Aaggie 3d, a cow having the largest 90 days' butter record of any cow of any breed in the world, their dam being the famous cow Aaggie. This cow is of the Excelsior family, and gave 47 lbs. of milk in a day when two years old, but was hooked in her udder, and since no record has been kept; but she is by nature one of the deepest milkers of this most celebrated breed of cows.

The Politics of France.

There has recently been a critical crisis in the affairs of France, which at last has been happily and peacefully settled. M. Grévy has been forced by circumstances to resign the Presidency of the French Republic, with nearly five years of his term before him. The past year he has been able to retain his position because his opponents failed to concentrate upon his successor. There was great excitement in Paris, and in fact throughout all France, when it was known that the President was to send in his resignation to the House of Deputies. In Paris a mob gathered in front of the palace of the Elysee, and cried for the President to resign. Troops guarded the entrance to the palace. The crowds in front of the Palais Bourbon became so demonstrative that cavalry was obliged to charge them. Crowds continued to flock to the Elysee. There was a big demonstration in front of the Russian Embassy, the crowd shouting "Vive la Russie." The police dispersed the gathering. The crowds in the streets were due partly to the decision of the revolutionary meeting of the previous evening to assemble at the Palais Bourbon, and also because they were opposed to certain candidates whose names had been mentioned. There is no doubt that the President played fast and loose with the Chamber of Deputies for several days, but on Friday he sent in his resignation, saying that it was rendered imperative by the action of the subordinate branches of the government. The deputies received the message with profound silence.

The downfall of President Grévy was nearly as sudden as his rise in public life was slow and arduous. There have been few fortuitous transitions or lucky accidents in his career. It has been from the beginning till a little previous to his enforced resignation, an orderly, uninterrupted record of steady progress. He has been a safe, conservative leader. But for him, doubtless, France would before this have been at war with Germany. As President of the Deputies he was the unanimous choice of the republicans for the same office in 1879. He was known as the advocate of an amendment which might have prevented Louis Napoleon's usurpation of power, if the constitution makers of 1848 had adopted it. They had proposed a popular election every four years. His amendment involved presidential elections by the Assembly, the term of office not being limited, and the authority conferred being revokable at any time. By his amendment the President would have been converted into a Premier who could be controlled at all times by the legislature and turned out of office at its pleasure. The Deputies at Bordeaux honored M. Grevy with their confidence because he was the most conspicuous advocate of the absolute supremacy of the legislature in Presidential elections and in executive administration. It was for the same cause that their successors in Versailles were willing to elect him to the highest office in 1879. He was, above all things, the recognized champion of legislative omnipotence. The attitude of hostility which he assumed to the Chambers previous to his resignation was utterly at variance with the principles advocated by him during his whole career —a fact which makes his downfall the more humiliating.

On Saturday, M. Sadi-Carnot was elected President of the Republic, on the second ballot in the Congress at Versailles. The election was a quiet one, and seems to give satisfaction throughout the country. The new President, though a comparatively young man, possesses numerous strong qualifications for the office aside from his abilities as a politician. He is one of the best civil engineers in France, and his work in this has been spent in an intelligent effort to advance the material prosperity of the country. He is also prominent in scientific rather than selfish, and his induction into the palace of the Elysee after the era of Wilsonism will undoubtedly result in the country's taking enormous strides forward and administer a final rebuke to the scoffers at the possibility of a permanent Republic in France. His election insures the safety of the Republic and the preservation of order. The monarchists have suffered a complete route. Their schemes of revolution have failed, and what is far more significant and hopeful for the future of that country, without an open outbreak or the shedding of blood. The test was a severe one, and it revealed some weak places in the French republican system, but it was equal to the strain. There is now good reason to hope and expect the French Republic has a long and prosperous future in prospect. Carnot is a republican of the Gambetta school, and has the confidence of the mass of the French people.

Circular.

Complete arrangements have been made for the 14th annual meeting of the Maine State Grange, to be holden at Skowhegan, December 20—22, 1887. Railroad fare and hotel accommodations have been satisfactorily reduced. The meeting will be an important one, in consequence of the election and installation of a new board of officers. Every Subordinate Grange and every Pomona Grange should be fully represented. The Master of each Subordinate Grange, (and his wife, if a Matron) are the delegates to the State Grange, also the Pomona Grange is entitled to the same representation. But if for any cause the Master of a Subordinate Grange is unable to attend, then any fourth degree member of the Grange may be elected by the Grange to attend as delegate, instead of the Master. In order to have the fullest representation, when practicable the subordinate Granges should aid in paying the expenses of the delegate, in order to receive at the earliest time the "Annual Word." The 5th degree will be conferred in form, and as the constitution has been changed, for the first time, an opportunity will be given to all of the members of our order in *good standing*, residing in this State, to receive the 5th degree. Certificates to this effect should be obtained, and signed by the Worthy Master and the Secretary of the Subordinate Grange to which the applicant belongs.

HIRAM ERASTUS ROBIE, *State Master.*
Gorham, Dec. 6.

We regret to learn that Mrs. Helen M. Fellows, wife of Jabez H. Fellows, Esq., of Melrose, Mass., and daughter of the late George Cony of Augusta, died at her home in Melrose, on the second of December, aged 41 years, 7 months. Her remains were brought to this city for interment, Monday afternoon. Services at the house of Geo. W. Pillsbury. She leaves a husband and three children to mourn her loss, and her very sudden death. The funeral of the lady had lived at Melrose, where she had gathered about her a large and loving circle of friends, who will tenderly and affectionately cherish her memory. Of sweet temperament, pure thought, and loving nature, she was the light and joy of home, one whose presence was ever a blessing and a benediction.

SUPERIOR COURT. The December term of the Superior Court convened in this city, Tuesday. The following is a list of those drawn to serve as jurors at this term:

Fred I. Brown, Readfield; Sumner Clark, Litchfield; Charles Clary, Hallowell; Sumner Flood, Clinton, (excused); Charles J. Higgins, Farmingdale, (foreman); Elijah A. Hilton, Waterville, (excused); J. M. Humphrey, Augusta; Howard Hunt, Chelsea; H. E. Merrill, Gardiner, (excused); J. B. Pinkham, Augusta, (excused); John Reynolds, Winslow, (excused); Henry Richardson, (excused); Noah G. Sanborn, Vienna; Marcellus Shaw, Augusta, (excused); Frank Taylor, Vassalboro; W. W. Washburn, China; R. J. Whittaker, Albion; Morrill Young, Augusta.

Among the publications which we feel perfectly safe in recommending to our young readers, of both sexes, is Golden Days, published in Philadelphia, Pa., by John Elverson, at $3 a year. It is issued in either weekly or monthly parts, so that one can have the choice of receiving it every week or in monthly parts. We unhesitatingly say that no better class of reading matter for the price can be obtained elsewhere. No parent can object to the character of the paper, though it is exciting enough to captivate at once the young reader, and interest the old as well. This is the season of the year when plans are made for the reading matter of the coming year, and no mistake can be made in selecting the literary, wholesome and instructive matter contained within the broad pages of *Golden Days*.

The Supreme Court of the United States has made a most important decision in the Kansas case, which has been before it for some time. The court decides that a State can destroy liquors without compensating their owners. The court agree with the friends of prohibition in holding that liquor is one of those pernicious things which the community has a right to seize and destroy as a measure of protection, under its police regulations. This furnishes the decision in the Michael Burns case, when it gets to the higher court, sustaining the power of the state to prohibit the sale of imported liquors.

A WOMAN'S SACRIFICE. Miss Tiney, daughter of Henry Cobb of Winthrop, lately had her hair cut, and sold the clipped tresses for $7.50. The lot weighed seven and one-half ounces, was 36 inches in length and brought $1.00 per ounce.

Lumbering Interests of Fairfield.

In certain sections of the State the past few years have witnessed great changes, and the present outlook is indeed promising. Among those but few have felt a greater thrill of new life than this southeastern town of Somerset county. The severe fires that destroyed the mills, and later so large a per cent. of the business places, proved, as it always does, a blessing in disguise. Of course many individuals suffered severely, but in rebuilding, better mills, larger and better stores take the place of the old, and so enable manufacturers and traders to do more and better business than ever before. As the natural result the town has made a wonderful growth the past seven years. Everything is concentrated, and the entire business of the village, formerly known as Kendall's Mills, does not occupy more than one-half mile on the river. Here are employed, in the mills, shops and wood-working establishments some over five hundred men, a large proportion of whom are heads of families. The weekly pay-roll amounts to about five thousand, two hundred and fifty dollars. This will explain the activity of the town and the general business prosperity. Starting at the head of the mill pond we find the large pulp mill, employing 125 men, and consuming 3000 cords of poplar, cut into four-foot stuff, drawn to the river on the river, and 7500 cords of edgings hauled from the mills, on a track skirting the shore of the pond. The five saw mills are manned by 150 men. The business portion of the town, there being only a driveway between the brick blocks and the river bank.

Following down the stream, now full of logs stored in rafts, or the shores piled high for the early sawing of April, before the river opens to the head waters and lets down the cut of this winter, we come first to the mill of E. Totman & Co. The old firm name is retained, though the senior member died some years ago. Here fifty men are employed, the cut of the season putting up about four millions, principally long lumber, though a large quantity of clapboards and shingles are shipped each year. In the block of mills just across the pond is the firm of A. Totman & Sons, where fifty-five men are kept busy cutting from four and a half to five millions yearly. Next below is the large mill of Duren Bros., who employ more than seventy men, and cut about seven millions of long lumber. Then comes the mill of Hon. S. A. Nye, where sixty men slice up five millions each season. These three last named firms saw six to seven millions of shingles, one million clapboards and several millions of laths.

At the village of Somerset Mills, three miles above Fairfield village, may be seen the mill of Messrs. Lawrence, Phillips & Co., where nearly if not quite ten millions of long lumber have been run through since the gates opened in the spring. Of course a very large per cent. of this lumber is shipped at once by rail, but those not familiar with the wood working business will fail to form any idea of the amount required there. The framing mill, near the railroad station, uses large quantities in the construction of their buildings, which, after being properly fitted, are shipped all over this and foreign countries. Here fifty men are employed, and the framed dwelling, no matter its size, comes from the mill with all the perfections of work that can be done by the saw mills, stands the large two-story manufactory of the Maine M nufacturing Co., where sixty men are busy cutting up lumber for the manufacture of clothespins, which have shielded the hearts of Young America this winter, the lap boards and tables, chairs and plant stands, which find a ready sale in the leading cities, and some of home abroad. Just below are two large shops, one owned and occupied by Kenrick Bros., and the other by J. A. and E. A. Cilley, where fifty men are employed, manufacturing furniture.

At the boom, one mile above the village, forty men are employed from four to five months each year, collecting and sorting the logs that come down, and getting all to be stopped at Fairfield. This year twenty-four millions, or over one hundred and sixty thousand sticks, were culled from the millions that came down the Kennebec. This amount does not include the ten millions saved at Somerset Mills for Lawrence, Phillips & Co. At the present time, the saw mills are nearly all idle. The old stock of logs to be put in rafts is exhausted, and the crews are on their way to the logging camps to procure another year's supply. The past season has been marked by a steady demand, and a very satisfactory price. This surely is merited, when we consider that but little, if any, money has been made the past five years, the cost of getting stock having been nearly, and prices generally low. The amount of capital invested, and expenses of carrying on a year's operations, together with the risks that must be run by the operator, render the business one requiring strict attention, business sagacity and an abundance of energy. When the winter's operations are well underway, at least six hundred men, thirty to forty pairs of cattle and fifty horses will be employed. It will be necessary to put on the landings the thirty or more millions needed to keep the saws busy during the season of 1888. Bring all this lumberman are contributing largely to the business prosperity of the town, and as we appreciate what this business in all its details means, we realize how high a hope and prosperous future prospect. Carnot is a republican of the Gambetta school, and has the confidence of the mass of the French people.

Maine Savings Banks.

The report of Bank Examiner Richards shows that the working people of Maine are in a prosperous and thriving condition. They are not only making a good living, but are constantly putting something aside for a rainy day. The total number of depositors in Maine Savings Banks the first of the month was 119,229, the great majority of which, or 95,403, represent sums of less than $500, while the same encouraging ratio is maintained in the relative increase of new depositors for the year, or 4,455, representing less than $500, while only 83 larger depositors have been added. This is indeed a most satisfactory exhibit, and speaks well for Maine. The banks are in a sound condition, and yield a sure and safe dividend to the depositors. In Saco, the bank was with a severe loss through the defalcation of the absconding clerk, but still has a surplus above all liabilities.

The report shows that the number of savings banks in the State has increased to fifty-five. The whole number of depositors, November 1st, was 119,229, of which 95,403 represent a deposit of less than $500, and 33,826 represent a larger average. The number of depositors has increased, during the year, 4,538. The accounts of less than $500 deposits have increased 4,455, while those above $500, each show an increase of 1 to 1 o'clock the amounts are summed, and a doctor attended to the wounds of the elder Bennett, which though severe are not necessarily fatal.

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The fifty-four savings banks have paid a State Tax of $253,745.96. This does not include the tax deposits in the several trust companies. It appeared in the appraisement of the assets of the savings banks in May that their value was $5,337,004.92 in excess of all liabilities.

Under charters granted by the Legislature, three new trust companies have been organized and commenced business under favorable auspices, viz.: The Eastern Trust and Banking Company, Bangor; the Northern Banking Company, Portland; the Oxford County Loan Association, Norway.

The receiver of the Saco Savings Bank reports that a petition has been filed, asking the court for authority to sell the remaining assets in order to close its affairs, and declare a final dividend about January 1st, 1888.

Considerable space is given to a report of Loan and Building associations, of which the first in Maine was organized in Richmond in 1875. Mr. Richards explains the workings of these associations of which there are now 157 shareholders, of which about 146 are borrowers.

The amount of "dues collected" is $68,-093; the total amount of resources, $93,-613,356. The number of loans outstanding is about 160; the value, $87,548.7. The number of new houses built through their aid, and now occupied is nearly 100, and a number are now in process of erection. The Association claims to have been able to pay a fair dividend on their shares, one paying as high as six per cent. the past year. The cost of the houses erected average between $2000 and $4000.

The report alludes to the Saco defalcation, and says that while the bank sustains a large loss it still had a surplus above liabilities of $464,942.24, and is one of the most substantial fiduciary institutions in New England.

During the past eight years, the number of depositors in the savings banks of this State has increased from 70,643 to 119,229, and the amount of deposits from $20,978,-130.92 to $38,819,643.22. At the commencement of 1880 their surplus above liabilities was $1,037,076.32. It now stands at $5,-337,004.92. In 1880 the amount of dividends in default was $886,375; they are now reduced to $115,000. The character of their assets as a whole, has improved during the eight years, and the public generally admits of a comparison. In eight years the savings banks have paid into the State treasury for tax on deposits, $1,608,137.67, and paid dividends to their depositors amounting to $9,688,147.33.

Thirty Thousand Dollars in the House—A Miser Robbed.

Sunday night, it being extremely dark, persons unknown entered the house of old Peter Bennett, who lives about three-quarters of a mile from the depot at East Newport, dragged him from his bed, brutally beat him, and made away with $30,000, the savings of years. Bennett was a character. In his miserly way, he had been accumulating money, and by closely saving and by shrewd investments, it is supposed to say he was worth $50,000. He lived in a squalid house, and had but little confidence in banks. When the Newport Savings Bank got into difficulty, he drew out his money in just the nick of time. After that no savings bank was safe enough for him, no matter if all the bank examiners in the Union vouched for it. He went into banking on his own account. All the cash he had in bank there, some $15,000, brought it home, and kept it in an old trunk in his sleeping room, with other money and securities. It was an old trunk, and the key had been lost about that he kept his money in that trunk. Exactly how much money there was in the trunk at the time of the robbery, the old man does not know. He had not counted it for two years. When he did last count it, there was $25,000 in bills, and $1300 in gold. Since then he has added as much as $2500 in bills belonging to his wife, and this money was packed with all the skill and cunning of a miser. But the trunk was not guarded with equal care. A rope was tied around the trunk, around which the table was put over it and tied to it, and then the table was lashed to the floor. In the house, besides Bennett, who is about 75 years old, were his wife, old also and of feeble mind, and a grand-daughter, who, with her husband, Frank Patten, slept in an adjoining room. All the old man remembers is that he was awakened in the night by a blow on the head, and to find himself on the floor with a man standing over him. The man was of medium height and thick set,—that is all he remembers of him. The man struck him again, and the old man in his agony and terror called "Patten," "Patten." At this, the man shouted: "Shut up, Bennett, or I'll blow your d—d brains out," struck him again over the head, and discharged a revolver. It was probably about this time that Frank Patten and his wife jumped out of their bed room window, and ran to the house of Mr. Bennett, a neighbor and the son of the old man. As for the old man, he had just life enough to drag himself to the door of his bed room, when the ruffian who had assaulted him, with a companion, cursing the heavy trunk which they were dragging out of the house.

When they had gone with his dearly-beloved money, the old man rushed from the house, undressed and half frantic. He was met by his son, who had been routed out by the fleeing grand-daughter and her husband. The son was unnerved, and persuaded to go back to his house, while the younger men said they would "hunt them up." They went into the orchard, and there, in the dim twilight, found the empty trunk and a little black one. Young Bennett's wife says she saw three men leaving the scene, running at the top of their speed. In the little black one, the robbers found nothing, and a doctor attended to the wounds of the elder Bennett, which though severe are not necessarily fatal.

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President's Message.

The President begins his annual Message by calling attention to the national finances. The amount of money annually exacted through the operation of present laws from the industries and necessities of the people, largely exceeds the sum necessary to meet the expenses of the government. When we consider that the theory of our institutions guarantees to every citizen the full enjoyment of all the fruits of his industry and enterprise, with only such deduction as may be his share towards the careful and economical maintenance of the government which protects him, it is plain that the exaction of more than this is indefensible extortion and a culpable betrayal of American fairness and justice. This wrong inflicted upon those who bear the burden of national taxation, like other wrongs, multiplies a brood of evil consequences. The public treasury, which should only exist as a conduit conveying the people's money to its legitimate object of expenditure, becomes a hoarding-place for money needlessly withdrawn from trade and the people's use, thus crippling our national energies, suspending our country's development, preventing investment in productive enterprise, threatening financial disturbance, and inviting schemes of public plunder.

On the 30th day of June, 1885, the excess of revenues over public expenditures, as complying with the annual requirements of the sinking fund, was $17,859,735.84; during the year ended June 30, 1886, such excess amounted to $47,405,545.20; and during the year ended June 30, 1887, it reached the sum of $50,040,949.54.

The annual contributions to the sinking fund during the three years above specified, amounting in the aggregate to $138,058,-320.94, and deducted from the surplus as stated, were made by calling in for that purpose, outstanding three per cent. bonds of the government during the six months prior to June 30th, 1887. The surplus revenue had grown so large by repeated accumulations and it was feared the withdrawal of this great sum of money needed by the people would so affect the business of the country that the sum, $79,864,100, of such surplus, was applied to the payment of the principal and interest of the three per cent. bonds still outstanding, and which were then payable at the option of the government. The precarious condition of financial affairs among the people still needing relief, immediately after the 30th day of June, 1887, the remainder of the three per cents. bonds then outstanding, amounting with principal and interest to the sum of $18,877,500, were called in to be applied to the sinking fund contribution for the current fiscal year, notwithstanding the operations of the treasury department.

Representations of distress in business circles have not only continued, but also increased, and absolute peril seemed at hand. In these circumstances the contribution to the sinking fund for the current fiscal year was at once made by the expenditure of $17,684,283 in the purchase of government bonds not yet due, bearing four and four and a half per cent. interest, the premium paid thereon averaging about 24 per cent. and the former and eight per cent. for the latter.

Our surplus revenues have continued to accumulate, the excess for the present year amounting on the first day of December to $63,236,191.19, and the estimate of such sum added to prior accumulations will swell the surplus in the treasury to $140,-000,000. This money should be restored to its place among the people. To bring this about, it has been suggested that the present bonded debt might be refunded at a less rate of interest, and the difference between the old and new security paid in cash, thus finding use for the surplus in the treasury. The success of this plan, it is apparent, must depend upon the volition of the holders of the present bonds. The President does not favor unnecessary or extravagant appropriations for the purpose of avoiding the accumulation of an excess of revenue. He calls upon Congress to adjust all these matters properly, as upon Congress rests the responsibility.

The needless surplus is taken from the people and locked in the public treasury by means of a tariff or duty levied upon importations from abroad and internal revenue taxes levied upon the consumption of tobacco and spirits and fermented liquors. No complaint is made of the taxation of luxuries. But our present tariff laws, the vicious, inequitable and illogical source of unnecessary taxation ought to be at once revised and amended. These laws, as their primary and plain effect, raise the price to consumers of all articles imported and subject to duty by precisely the sum paid for such duties. To this sum paid by the consumer the tax paid by those who purchase for use these imported articles. Many of these things, however, are raised or manufactured in our country, and the duties now levied upon foreign goods and products are called protection to these home manufactures, because they render it possible for our people, who are able to say he was worth $50,000. He lived in a squalid house, and had but little confidence in banks. When the Newport Savings Bank got into difficulty, he drew out his money in just the nick of time. After that no savings bank was safe enough for him, no matter if all the bank examiners in the Union vouched for it. He went into banking on his own account. All the cash he had in bank there, some $15,000, brought it home, and kept it in an old trunk in his sleeping room, with other money and securities. It was an old trunk, and the key had been lost about that he kept his money in that trunk. Exactly how much money there was in the trunk at the time of the robbery, the old man does not know. He had not counted it for two years. When he did last count it, there was $25,000 in bills, and $1300 in gold. Since then he has added as much as $2500 in bills belonging to his wife, and this money was packed with all the skill and cunning of a miser. But the trunk was not guarded with equal care. A rope was tied around the trunk, around which the table was put over it and tied to it, and then the table was lashed to the floor. In the house, besides Bennett, who is about 75 years old, were his wife, old also and of feeble mind, and a grand-daughter, who, with her husband, Frank Patten, slept in an adjoining room. All the old man remembers is that he was awakened in the night by a blow on the head, and to find himself on the floor with a man standing over him. The man was of medium height and thick set,—that is all he remembers of him. The man struck him again, and the old man in his agony and terror called "Patten," "Patten." At this, the man shouted: "Shut up, Bennett, or I'll blow your d—d brains out," struck him again over the head, and discharged a revolver. It was probably about this time that Frank Patten and his wife jumped out of their bed room window, and ran to the house of Mr. Bennett, a neighbor and the son of the old man. As for the old man, he had just life enough to drag himself to the door of his bed room, when the ruffian who had assaulted him, with a companion, cursing the heavy trunk which they were dragging out of the house.

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City News.

—Father Doherty states that the Catholic Fair in this city, netted just $1,450.

—The store windows are beginning to be luminous with holiday goods.

—Next month, Rev. Mr. White of the First Baptist church, will begin a series of Sunday evening illustrated lectures.

—Mr. Stanley H. Holmes of this city, on Monday last, began his second term as Principal of the high school at Milo.

—The *Winthrop Budget* says it is not impossible that Mr. W. E. Whitman of that place, may start up his agricultural works in Augusta.

—On Monday last, Miss Bertha Holmes begun her second term of school in the Hospital district in this city. This young teacher had fine success the first term.

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Items of Maine News.

J. J. & A. E. Hopkins, lumber dealers, Ellsworth, have failed.

The Aroostook papers say, "No commercial union in ours, thank you."

The Windsor House, Bangor, has been sold to Asa R. Pickard, lately proprietor of the Penobscot Exchange.

The measles is still prevalent in Winn, and it is accompanied by a severe cold or croup in nearly every instance.

The annual State Encampment of the Grand Army of the Republic will be held in Portland, Feb. 9 and 10 next.

The New England Shipbuilding Company of Bath have acceded to the demands of the Knights of Labor, and the men resumed work at the old wages Thursday morning.

The Bridgton House, an old and widely known summer resort, has been purchased by M. L. Mason of the Sunset Pavilion, N. H.

Fred Marston and Bert Durham, while playing polo on the ice at Mechanic Falls, Saturday, collided with great force, severely injuring both.

The special constables of Penobscot county have given the rumsellers ten days' notice to shut up. After that no favors will be granted.

Over 20,000 Christmas trees have been cut in the vicinity by J. D. Piper of Rockland, and shipped by him to New York on the steamer Caroline Miller. Some of the trees were nearly thirty feet high.

Saturday evening, a two-year-old son of Edward Higgins of Camden, took a dose of the oil of checkerberry from a bottle he had taken from the closet unknown to his parents, from the effects of which he died.

Mr. Samuel Emerson, of Boston, in the employ of the Androscoggin Lake Transportation Company at Bethel, was thrown from his carriage Monday, and instantly killed.

The water works at Belfast, constructed by Wheeler & Parks of Boston, have been completed within the contract time, and were publicly tested by the fire department, Friday. They proved a complete success.

Timothy F. Allen of Alfred, met with a painful accident Wednesday forenoon, while loading logs in the woods. A chain broke and let the log on his leg, and broke both bones above the ankle joint.

The large woolen mill which is being built at Sangerville has been closed in for the winter. The inside is now being finished, and the machinery will be put in so that the mill may start up in the spring.

The residence of John E. Warren, agent of S. D. Warren & Co.'s paper mills at Cumberland Mills, was burglarized Monday night. The thieves secured silver ware worth about $130, and about $75 in cash.

The following Maine patents were granted Tuesday: Edward B. Allen, Portland, machine for assorting nails; Henry A. Robinson, Foxcroft, postal packet; James H. Sewall, Portland, car heating apparatus.

Solomon Burnham was arraigned in the municipal court, Bangor, Tuesday, for burning his buildings Sunday night. He was bound over in the sum of $300 to await the sitting of the February term of the supreme court.

The new water works in Dover and Foxcroft have been tested, the test being satisfactory to the officers of the fire department. A stream was thrown over the chimney of the Mayo factory and to the top of the spire of the Methodist church.

Fish Commissioner Connor and his wardens, of Rockland, continue to wage war on short lobsters. Since October 31st, Wardens Barbour and Morgan of Portland, have seized and put back into the sea 2,424 short lobsters.

Mr. Edward Thomas of Friendship, left his house recently, and went to the barn to milk his cow. Not returning at the proper time, his family became anxious about him, and on going into the barn found him lifeless, apparently from disease of the heart.

Quite large game is being killed in the eastern part of North Carmel. A number of young cattle running in a back pasture have become so wild that the owners have to resort to firearms to get them. They shot three last week, and have seven more to capture.

In the treasury estimates are $10,000 for a light at Long Island, and $12,000 for one at Great Island; also for Lubec Channel, $12,500; Narraguagus River, $10,000; Penobscot River, $15,000; Portland harbor, $40,000; Back Cove channel, Portland, $30,000; Rockland river, $50,000; Saco river, $24,000; York harbor, $10,000.

The mystery in regard to the two fires at Chesterville, by which Mr. Brown and Miss French lost their buildings, some four weeks ago, is solved by the confession that Mr. Brown took from the Baldwin Place Home for Little Wanderers, confessing that he set both buildings on fire. He has been sent back to the House.

Bert Mason met with a very painful accident on Wednesday, while at work at the carriage shop of his father, Mr. John Mason, in Bangor. He was engaged with some of the machinery and got the fore finger of his left hand caught in the cogs of the drilling machine, crushing it in such a severe manner that the first joint had to be amputated.

Francis Cobb, Esq., of Rockland, while on the train between Boston and Portland, experienced a shock of paralysis, which partially disabled his limbs on one side. He was able to continue his journey to Portland, where he remained over night, and on Thursday, accompanied by his friends, came home. Since then his condition has improved.

Willie Hayward of Edmunds, aged 14, with his brother and a companion, both 18, worked at Holmes' sardine factory in Eastport, and boarded themselves in a small wooden camp. Friday night, the two older boys went to town for food, leaving Willie at the camp. During their absence the camp caught fire and Hayward burned to death.

School District No. 1, comprising the village of Boothbay Harbor, have voted almost unanimously to pay the sum of $250 per year for twenty-five years, in addition to $1,200 per year, voted by the town last June, to secure a water supply, purchase twenty hydrants for fire purposes, two drinking fountains and four schoolhouses free.

As Mr. Alex. Duncan of Washburn, was clearing a lathe saw of sawdust, with a mittened hand, the saw caught in the mitten, throwing the hand on the saw and cutting and mangling it in a frightful manner. The hand was split between the second and third fingers up to the wrist joint. The mill men all gave him the price of a day's work, and a purse of $25 was raised among the citizens of the village.

The following Maine postmasters have been appointed: Ella B. Jackson at Freemont; Fred W. Bartlett at Grant's Pond, Oxford county, vice Mrs. Eliza A. Jacobs, removed; Mrs. Mary F. Withee at Dover South Mills, Piscataquis county, vice Eugene S. Withee, deceased; Susan H. Dennis at East New Portland; Olgin F. Tinkham at South Monmouth, Kennebec county, vice L. Witherell, resigned.

The notorious smuggler, Sam Thompson, was arrested at Presque Isle, Thursday night, by Deputy U. S. Marshal, B. M. Johnson, and brought to Houlton and lodged in jail. He was taken to Portland Friday. Thompson has the reputation of being the boldest and most successful smuggler on the border. He has given the custom officers no end of trouble. There is a general feeling of relief by the law abiding citizens of that town.

Tuesday morning two prisoners in Portland jail, George Hatch in for breaking and entering, and Liverpool Jack in for run selling, while taking in stock at the door of the jail, broke away and ran for freedom. The superintendent gave chase and caught Jack. Hatch got a fiery start and vowed across the bay to the Marine Hospital. He was caught an hour later by Deputy Sheriff Sargent as he was crossing the bridge.

A little daughter of Mrs. Joseph Clark of Eastport, recently fell from a fence and injured her shoulder so that it dropped about three inches and displaced the shoulder blade. Miss Morong, a woman about 60 years of age, fell from a high fence over a fence and broke her arm, a short time since. Horace Ramsdell, fractured and dislocated an elbow; a son of James Malloch's, arm broken three inches above the elbow, and Mrs. Campbell, one of the master builders employed there, received injury to the hip by falling on the sharp corner of a granite block.

Mechanic Falls is experiencing something of a boom just now. The paper mills are all running, as is also the shoe shop and clothing manufactory. Besides these D. S. Perkins is building a carriage repair shop on Maple street, for Norway parties, and the grist mill and grain store being erected by Stephen Bray, is nearly ready for the engine and boiler. The machine shop of J. W. Penney & Sons is full of orders. They are now making the machinery for the new tooth pick factory of Rounds and Harris, which will be the most extensive of any in Maine. The new brick foundation under the Baptist church is complete, also the foundation for the tower, and the work will commence immediately.

Steam tug Storm King, Captain Farris, of St. John, N. B., towed two schooners up the river at Cais's, Friday morning, and docked them at Franklin wharf. Opposite Eaton's wharf the skipper of a schooner which was aground asked for assistance, which was granted. While doing so Custom House Inspector Thomas W. Noonan, and Special Inspector Emerson, boarded the Storm King and formally took possession of her for violation of the navigation laws in touching without reporting at the Custom House. Captain Farris endeavored to bluff it off, and said he would carry the Inspectors into English waters. They ordered him to take his vessel to Calais, which he finally did. There was great excitement on both sides of the river over the seizure. Deputy Collector Whidden released the tug Friday evening, on payment of dues. A Calais tug, for a similar offence at St. John, was recently fined four hundred dollars.

Items of General News

Jacob Sharp, the New York boodler, is out of jail, having given $40,000 bonds. He is extremely feeble.

The Salvation Army in Montreal omitted their parade, Wednesday night, and thus avoided being mobbed.

A saloon in Cutler, Ind., was blown up the other morning by giant powder, confined in oyster cans.

Eliza R. Snow, the Mormon poetess and one of the plural wives of Joe Smith, is dead.

The wool growers at a meeting Monday, did not think it advisable to ask Congress to increase the duty on wool.

An explosion of a locomotive at Stillart station on the Intercolonial road Tuesday, killed three men, injured many others and wrecked the station.

Heavy failures in Ontario, and the suspension of the Central Bank of Canada, have caused fears of a money panic in that province.

At the election in the towns of Massachusetts, Tuesday, on the subject of granting liquor licenses, the vote showed a large increase of temperance strength.

The German Crown Prince has three years of life before him, say the doctors, giving the cancer in his throat the highest rate of destruction.

George Norman, living near St. Louis, died the other night of hydrophobia. He was bitten last summer by a dog, but was not affected until the night of his death.

At Cat Island, Ark., on Thursday, there was a fight between whites and negroes, and two of the latter were killed and a number injured. It grew out of negroes insulting women on the street.

The Prohibition (third party) national committee have fixed upon Indianapolis, Ind., as the place for holding their national convention, and the first Wednesday in June, 1888, as the time.

Bradstreet's estimate of the cotton crop makes the yield for the present season lower by 25,000 bales than the commercial crop of 1886-87, but larger by 35,000 bales than the estimated actual production of that year.

A man named Young returned to White River, Ark., on Wednesday, from a hunting expedition, and just as he reached home stumbled. His gun was discharged, the shot passing through his son's heart, instantly killing the boy.

Frederick Reilly, aged 10, an inmate of St. Joseph's convent in Jersey City, held Thomas Jones, a four-year-old companion, on a red hot range until the little fellow was rescued, probably fatally burned. Reilly was arrested.

Diphtheria is making great havoc among the children at St. Eustache, Que., caused by the burial ground being in the centre of the village, poisoning the water. The government will insist on the removal of the burying ground.

In the savings banks of Boston there are deposits amounting to half a million dollars which nobody claims. The money was deposited 20 years ago. In the list are depositors from the towns of Hope, Wells, Union, East Corinth, Eliot, Kittery, Solon and Bangor, Me.

Two centennials are to be observed in Washington the next four years—one the centennial of the adoption of the constitution, and the other in commemoration of the discovery of America by Columbus. The entire matter will be presented to Congress for its action at the present session.

Collector Troup has ordered the seizure of the What Cheer Dairy Company's oleomargarine factory in Providence, R. I., which was detected in sending out "oleo" in unstamped packages, in violation of the law. Prosecutions were ordered on the evidence secured upon an examination of the company's business.

In Darlington county, S. C., on Thursday, Fred Edwards was whipping one of his children when his wife interfered, and he began beating her. John Edwards, his son, 16 years old, took a gun and fired, intending to shoot his father. He killed his mother, fatally injured his sister, while the brute of a father escaped with slight wounds.

The Lawrence House, six stores and three dwellings, all frame buildings, at Brookville, Kan., were burned early Thursday morning. Five persons were burned to death, and another will die from the effects of the burns. All the guests who got out did so by jumping from windows in the second story. The cause of the fire is unknown. Loss $25,000.

The annual report of the Commissioner of Agriculture recommends the transfer of the seed division to the State and Territorial experiment stations, and disapproves the efforts to make the department executive, while the bread winning work prospers. The commission states that the year has been one of prosperity and progress. Pleuro-pneumonia has been restricted to smaller areas than at any previous time.

Alarming reports continue to come in of black diphtheria in Clay and adjoining counties, Ark. The local physicians are unable to control the disease. They have advised that physician from Memphis be called upon, and this has been done. The fatal list foots up over fifty, all of whom have died within three weeks. Three deaths are reported in one family inside of 12 hours.

Twenty persons were killed and many injured by the earthquake at Besignano, Calabria. There have been several shocks of earthquake throughout that province. The ruin at Mataia at Besignano has been destroyed, and the town of Bogliano, Gravina, has suffered from the shocks greatly. Bisignano is almost entirely destroyed. Many thousand persons are rendered homeless, and many others are missing.

While John Feeney, a policeman at Union Hill, N. J., was in a saloon at that place Sunday, a bomb was thrown in the window and exploded under the table at which Feeney had been sitting a moment before. The table was thrown into the air and two windows in the saloon were shattered. Search was made outside the building, but the thrower of the missile could not be found. Feeney is the officer who interfered with an Anarchist meeting several Sundays ago, and arrested one of the Anaschists.

Nathan B. Mundy, heir to $750,000, was recently sent by relatives to the Middletown Insane Asylum. Argument was had before Judge Sartlett at Brooklyn, N. Y., on Thursday, on an application for his release as sane. The judge ruled that the asylum authorities were justified in holding Mundy on their certificate of insanity. The question of his mental condition, however, must be tried before a jury. Mundy must remain in custody until the trial. He was about to be married to a young lady on Staten Island. The wedding will have to be postponed.

Fiftieth Congress—First Session.

The Senate met at 11 o'clock, Monday forenoon, Senator Ingalls in the chair, who placed before the Senate certificates of election, certificates of appointment and other papers received since adjournment. The ceremony of administering the oath of office to the newly elected Senators was proceeded with. Senator Harris presented a memorandum for a constitutional amendment prohibiting the manufacture, sale, importation, transportation or transportation of alcoholic drinks in the United States. It was referred.

The House voted for Speaker with the following result:

Total	313
Carlisle	163
Reed	149
Brumm of Pennsylvania	1

The Clerk declared Mr. Carlisle duly elected Speaker. The Speaker was escorted to the desk by Messrs. Cox and Reed, amid loud applause. The oath was administered by Mr. Kelly of Pennsylvania.

Speaker Carlisle then administered the oath to Representatives-elect, and called for nominations for House officers.

A resolution presenting for election the Democratic caucus nominees was submitted by Mr. Cox, and a similar resolution presenting the names of the Republican caucus nominees was offered by Mr. Cannon.

Mr. Cannon's resolution was defeated, and Mr. Cox's was adopted without a division. The officers elected appeared and qualified.

A committee, consisting of Messrs. Cox, Randall and Cannon, was appointed to wait upon the President, and announce the House organized and ready to receive any communication.

In Senate, Tuesday, the President sent in the following nominations:

Lucius Q. C. Lamar of Mississippi, to be associate justice of the Supreme Court of the United States.

William F. Vilas of Wisconsin, to be Secretary of the Interior.

Don M. Dickinson of Michigan, to be Postmaster General.

Charles S. Fairchild of New York, to be Secretary of the Treasury.

Georges S. Rivers of New York, to be Assistant Secretary of State.

Isaac H. Maynard of New York, to be Assistant Secretary of the Treasury.

Sigourney Butler of Massachusetts, to be Second Comptroller of the Treasury.

James W. Hyatt of Connecticut, to be Treasurer of the United States.

The President's Message was read in both branches. See message elsewhere. No business of importance transacted in the House.

MR. J. T. TROWBRIDGE

Has been called the Thackeray of writers for boys. He will not only contribute a serial story to the *Youth's Companion* for 1888, but also a true narrative of his own boyhood and his early struggles for literary distinction. The latter will be supplemented by a similar paper written by Mrs. Alcott, in which she will give the autobiography of her girlhood. Some of her "Little Women" will appear here without any disguise of fiction.

No one knows better than those who have used Carter's Little Liver Pills what relief they have given when taken for dyspepsia, dizziness, pain in side, constipation, and disordered stomach.

Items and Incidents.

A fish pumped from a well down 100 feet, at Charlotte, Mich., is described by the Detroit News as having been "two and a quarter inches long, with keen, bright eyes, but no fins or scales. Its back was fringed with a row of bony spikes."

Rheumatism

Is undoubtedly caused by lactid acid in the blood. This acid attacks the fibrous tissues, and causes the pains and aches in the back, shoulders, knees, ankles, hips, and wrist. Thousands of people have found in Hood's Sarsaparilla a positive cure for rheumatism. This medicine, by its purifying action, neutralizes the acidity of the blood and also builds up and strengthens the whole body.

The late ex-Vice-President Wheeler is said to have often expressed regret that he had no kindred to cheer and interest his home. That was before his will was offered to probate. It is to be contested, and already there are 50 claimants who want to get relative parts of the estate, with a whole week for the discovery of fresh heirs.

Tone up the system and improve the appetite by using Ayer's Sarsaparilla. It will make you feel like a new person. Thousands have found health, and relief from suffering, by the use of this great blood purifier, when all others means failed.

Turkeys were so expensive in California at Thanksgiving that only the wealthy could eat them, the price being thirty cents per pound. The market has hitherto been supplied from east of the Rocky Mountains, and competition has kept the price down to about 12½ cents. This year the railroads were so overtaxed by their general freight and passenger business that the turkeys could not be carried across the mountains.

"I WOULD say to my friends and all who chance to read this, that I have used Adamsons Cough Balsam in my family for a long time, and consider it a very valuable medicine. It cures when all other remedies fail; and I would cheerfully recommend it to those afflicted with coughs, colds, asthma, etc. E. S. GETCHELL, Boston."

Jay Gould's income is placed at $1000 an hour.

Hop Plasters soothe, stimulate and strengthen weak and tired muscles. Cure pain and aches.

Mr. A. W. King of Charleston, has sold his thoroughbred Shorthorn bull calf, "Royal Duke," by "Diamond Duke," 68,990, dam Daisy, to Mr. B. J. Woodard of Atkinson.

Why don't you try Carter's Little Liver Pills? They are a positive cure for sick headache, and all the ills produced by disordered liver. Only one pill a dose.

The porter who takes care of Senator Leland Stanford's private car receives $200 a month. The professors in one of our Maine colleges receives $100 a month, each.

WISTAR'S BALSAM OF WILD CHERRY cured my little girl of a severe attack of whooping cough, when her life was given over by the physician and all other remedies failed. JOSIAH HOPP, Keyport, N. J.

Mrs. David Carlton of Winterport, a widow nearly 75 years of age, has since the last day of August spun, doubled and twisted 63 skeins of stocking yarn, knit four pairs of men's mittens and 11 pairs of men's stockings. She lives alone about one and a half miles from the village, and walks in once or twice a week to do her shopping.

Consumption Surely Cured.

To the Editor:—

Please inform your readers that I have a positive remedy for the above named disease. By its timely use thousands of hopeless cases have been permanently cured. I shall be glad to send two bottles of my remedy FREE to any of your readers who have consumption, if they will send me their Express and P. O. address. Respectfully,

T. A. SLOCUM, M. C., 181 Pearl St., New York.

—Nothing will shorten the winter so much as to give a note payable in the spring.

ADVICE TO MOTHERS.

MRS. WINSLOW'S SOOTHING SYRUP should always be used for children teething. It soothes the child, softens the gums, allays all pain, cures wind colic, and is the best remedy for diarrhœa. Twenty-five cents a bottle.

A noted cider maker in Palmyra is trying to comfort the temperance people a little by telling them there is but little juice in apples this year!

When Baby was sick, we gave her CASTORIA,
When she was a Child, she cried for CASTORIA,
When she became Miss, she clung to CASTORIA,
When she had Children, she gave them CASTORIA.

Maine Agricultural News.

—The annual meeting of the Committees on Farm Crops, of the North Kennebec Agricultural Society, was held Saturday, Nov. 26th, and the following report made:

On one acre corn—1st, M. W. Bean, Avon.

On one-half acre corn—1st, L. H. Toothaker, Phillips; 2d, John Harnden, Phillips.

On one acre potatoes—1st, C. S. Phillips, Avon, (226 bu.) 2d, W. C. Beal, Avon, (180 bu.)

On one-half acre potatoes—1st, E. J. Ross, (135 bu.); 2d, W. D. Soule, Rangeley, (120 bu.)

On one acre barley—1st, E. J. Ross, Phillips, (36 bu.)

On one-fourth acre turnips—1st, E. Dill, Phillips, (200 bu.)

This shows what our farmers can do in Maine. Why not feed they go west?

—Over four thousand bushels of grain were raised in Lang Plantation, the past season, mostly oats, which find a ready market at fifty and fifty-five cents per bushel. Corn other than usual will be pressed for the woods.

—Bear Mountain Grange, Waterford, celebrated its 13th anniversary the other evening, with an oyster supper. The tables looked very inviting and were loaded with a great variety, such as the Grange sisters know just how to prepare, and which were enjoyed by a large company, many invited guests being present, for which came a variety entertainment, opened by prayer by Rev. J. Robinson, followed by music from the choir, remarks by the Worthy Master, R. C. Plummer, very suggestive and appropriate, readings, dialogues and recitations, a paper by the Editress, Miss M. Billings, and music, vocal and instrumental. Among the most noticeable in the latter feature was a fine rendition on the organ by Miss Mamie Horr, with violin accompaniment by Ernest Horr; also a song, in costume, by the Village Quartette. The entertainment closing by singing "America" by all, and was followed by a sociable, where mirth and unity prevailed.

—At the regular annual meeting of Capital Grange, P. of H., Augusta, held Saturday evening, the following officers were elected for the ensuing year:

Master—S. L. Boardman.
Overseer—C. J. House.
Lecturer—John H. Yeaton.
Secretary—Charles F. Fletcher.
Treasurer—Columbus Cottle.
Chaplain—J. S. Hobbs.
Steward—Charles Sylvester.
Assistant Steward—Will E. Brown.
Lady Assistant Steward—Miss May R. Hall.
Gate Keeper—Samuel W. Lane.
Pomona—Miss Carrie Williams.
Flora—Mrs. C. M. Glidden.
Ceres—Mrs. S. L. Boardman.

—Potatoes $1.60 per bbl. at the station in Caribou.

—The West Oxford Agricultural Society, at a meeting held Dec. 3d, voted to cover its grand stand, to repair the track, build more sheds for stock, and improve its sanitary accommodations. For these purposes the sum of $550 was raised. The work of repairs and building was placed in the hands of a competent committee, and will be pushed forward early in the spring. This society received such a liberal patronage from the public the past year that they are determined to deserve it in future, and the officers will make such changes and improvements as will place them in the front rank among county societies. They have joined the National Trotting Association, and intend to put their track in such a condition as to entice fast horses from away, to offer liberal premiums and purses, and thus stimulate the people to greater exertions and larger displays of their products. By-laws and rules, premiums and regulations have been revised. It was voted to print the premium lists and place them in the hands of members by May 20th, 1888. B. WALKER MCKEEN.

Fryeburg, Dec. 5.

Essential to Health.

The value of the phosphate of lime to the human system is everywhere acknowledged by the highest scientific authorities. This substance is found in wheat and other cereals, and constitutes the most valuable element therein. Indeed, it may be truly said to be an essential and vitalising constituent of all grains. If grains are deprived of their phosphates, the nourishing properties are withdrawn in the same proportion. It is well-known fact that fine white flour is deprived of a large portion of the phosphates in the process of bolting, and that such flour alone will not sustain life. It was a happy idea of Prof. Horsford to restore life-sustaining substances through the medium of baking powder, and his famous preparation has proved one of the most useful gifts which science has made to mankind. It contains the nutritious and strength-giving phosphates, and its use is positively beneficial to health. It makes buscuit, bread, gems, rolls, and other articles that are far more light, white and wholesome, than it is possible to produce by any other process. The virtues possessed by this preparation should commend to all careful and economical housekeepers. In a report on the on relative value of the various baking powders, Prof. Chas. A. Doremus, of the Bellevue Hospital Medical College, says: "Unless a phosphate forms one of the ingredients of a baking powder, there is no residue left of nutritive value."

The Markets.

Report of Union Stock Market.

[Specially Reported for the Maine Farmer.]

WATERTOWN, Dec. 6, 1887.

Names of Drovers.	No. Cattle.	Sheep.	Veals.
F. W. Hayden,	19	00	5
A. P. Rich,	15	00	1
J. W. Clough,	16	00	00
W. W. Hall & Son,	29	00	10
Weller & Libby,	13	00	1
C. H. Merrill,	42	200	13
J. True,	4	00	00
F. H. Coolidge,	25	00	11
F. W. Thompson,	17	00	00
Thompson & Hall,	00	221	00
A. F. Libby,	19	00	00
D. Libby,	5	00	6
I. C. Libby & Son,	25	00	12
C. E. Bailey,	4	00	00

LIVE STOCK AT MARKET.

Cattle 1,636; sheep 11,338; hogs 22,271; Veals 406; horses 437.

FROM MAINE.

Cattle 210; sheep 422; veals 81; horses 37; 691 head shipped to Europe, balance used for home consumption.

CONDITION OF TRADE.

Beef cattle, fancy in demand at full prices, common no change to note, Western fancy beef steers, ¼ cent higher, range 3 to 4 cents for bulls and culls, 6 to 7½ for choice oxen. Sheep and lambs largely from the West. Fat lambs ¼ cent higher, a few choice Canadas about 6 cents live weight. Range of prices on fat sheep, 3 to 4 cents; lambs, 3 to 6 cents live weight. Hogs market firm at 6½ cents dressed weight for Northern. Veals unchanged range 3 to 6½ cents live weight. New milch cows in demand if choice. Common, market crowded and lower, range $20 to $55. Horses, a perceptible improvement for the season of the year.

SALES OF MAINE CATTLE AND SHEEP.

A. P. Rich, 1 springer fancy $50; 1 extra do $45; 3 common, $25 each. W. W. Hall & Son, 4 milch cows at $50 each; 4 working oxen, averaging to girth 6 feet, 10 inches, live weight 2800, at 4 cents. F. W. Hayden, 4 veals for $18; 2 milch cows at $40 each; 1 slim ox, live weight 1750 lbs., at $50. C. H. Merrill sold 16 milch cows from $30 to $60; 1 1-year-old bull for $14. J. W. Clough sold 16 cattle, fed by S. Berry, Fairfield, a choice lot at 5 cents live, to go across the water. C. E. Bailey sold four fancy cattle to H. Bird & Co., at 7½ cents dressed weight, all fancy white faced ones of fine form, as Mr. Bailey will feed no others. Thompson & Hall sold oxen and lambs at 4 cents, averaging 75 pounds.

OTHER FARM PRODUCTS.

Hay is firmer, and undoubtedly will go higher if feed still continues to advance, as each sympathizes with the other. A fancy car load of hay would bring $19, and so down to $10 for small hay and straw. Potatoes are in liberal supply, price is unchanged, 60 to 80 cents being the range. Notwithstanding the short crop of potatoes in the New England States, there will be no dearth, as the shipping facilities are such that other countries come to the rescue. We eat potatoes in Boston that are raised in Scotland, which are fully up to our own raising.

WOOL.

This product of the flocks of Maine remains inactive, and we think means to hold on to its mulish propensities to the end of the year. Maine farmers who sold wool early, quite a little has been sold, as the price has failed to advance, but rather to slack back. The year's transaction will go down to history as a poor one for wool dealers. Maine wool would bring from 28 to 29 cts. as to percentage of shrinkage in cleansing.

GENERAL OUTLOOK.

As predicted in the *Maine Farmer* several times of late, indications are to higher prices. Corn is rising sharply, which tends to induce people to unload, which causes stagnation and lower prices. Now as the new year comes in, with the markets cleaned up, we cannot see any reason why all kinds of meats will not be buoyant, and a material advance realized. The outlook is a flattering one for all the surplus farm products to be sold out of Maine. Hay, potatoes, mutton, lamb, beef, poultry, horses and wool are known on the markets judiciously, will bring steadily advancing and remunerative prices. It should be the policy for every farmer of Maine, with present prospective outlook to hold their produced prices. This "forcing" would sharpen trade and give the farmer his due, as they will realize none too much for their hard labor. I. C. LIBBY.

Brighton Cattle Market.

BRIGHTON, Dec. 6, 1887.

Amount of live stock at market—Cattle 398; Sheep and lambs 7000; Swine 13,680; Horses 160; Western cattle 253; Northern cattle 145.

Prices of Beef Cattle per 100 lbs. live weight—Extra quality $5 25@5 50; first quality $4 75@5 12½; second quality $4 25@4 62½; third quality $3 62½@4 12½; poorest grades of coarse oxen, bulls, etc., $ @3 50.

Brighton Hides 6¼c per lb.
Brighton Tallow 3¾c per lb.
Country Hides 5@5½c per lb.
Country Tallow 3½@3¾c per lb.
Calf Skins 6@7c per lb.
Sheep and Lamb Skins 75c@$1 25 each.
Dairy Skins 25@50c each.

The demands for hides are very dull and inactive and prices low.

SALES OF CATTLE.

By Number.	Price per 100 lbs live wt.	Live wt.	Average wt.
A. N. Monroe	3 60	1500	
do	20	4 20	" 1175
do	18	4 10	" 1225
do	25	4 75	" 1555
Farrell&McFlynn	6	4 35	" 1300
do	10	4 50	" 1250
do	9	4 35	" 1190
do	3	4 60	" 1220

The demands for beef cattle have been light. Cattle of the best grades are coming higher at the West, and drovers are asking more for the same grades of beeves than they have been asking at this date. Butchers are buying sparingly, as the high prices asked are such that butchers can afford to pay for live cattle to compete with the Western dressed beef trade. Prices ranged from $4@5 50 per 100 lbs. live weight for butchers' cattle.

Sheep and Lambs—Those from the West were all owned by butchers and taken direct to the slaughter houses from the cars. None on the market for sale. Prices unchanged.

Swine—Western Fat Hogs are costing butchers 5¾@5¾c per lb live weight landed at the slaughter houses.

Boston Market.

BOSTON, TUESDAY, Dec. 6, 1887.

FLOUR AND MEAL. The market is quiet for flour, and owing to the decline in wheat prices there is no demand from the mills. The jobbing trade is moderate, and prices about the same. Following quotations are for jobbing lots only, and take in a wide variety of brands, as to quality. We quote fine at $2 50 @ 3 25; superfine at $2 00@3 40; Minnesota bakers at $4 00@6 00; Michigan stone ground at $4 10@4 50; Michigan rollers at $4 20@4 65; winter wheat patents, straights and rollers at $4 75; winter wheat patents at $4 75@5 25, and spring wheat patents at $5 00@5 50 per barrel. Corn meal is firm, with the sales of granulated at $3 50@4 00, and kiln dried at $2 75@3 00 per bbl. Oatmeal continues steady, with sales of fine at $5 75@6, and coarse at $4. Grits 5c per bbl. The feed market has been sales of small lots at $3 50@4 25 per bbl.

GRAIN. Corn is easier to quote. Steamer mixed and track is offered at 68c, and steamer yellow at 69c per bush. Oats are in moderate demand on the spot, and prices are slightly lower, ranging for No. 2 white from 41½@41¾c per bush, as to location. In futures, there were sales on the call of 2700 bush each No. 2 white at 41½c; 10,800 bush do do at 41@41¼c; 4400 bush January do at 41⅞c, and 5400 bush February do at 42c. For cash the closing prices were 41c bid and 41¾c asked, making the settling price 41½c per bush. Before the call there were sales of 9,000 bush No. 2 white at 41½c; 2700 bush January do at 42½c; 2700 bush February do at 43¼c. After the call 10,800 bush January do at 41⅞@42c, and 4400 bush February do at 42⅞@43c per bush.

FROM NEW YORK. Receipts of poultry the request is slack, and it takes a very nice lot of western turkeys to bring above 12c. Good northern are not plenty, but they can readily bring more than 10c, were they here. Chickens are very dull, with the best western selling at about 12c; indeed, the market is hardly quotable at above 10@12c. Fowls and roosters chickens might bring two or three cents better prices, but they are not offering.

The butter market is quiet, but fairly steady, in the matter of prices. Some seconds of ladle packed are closed out yesterday at 19c. Firsts and imitation creameries are quoted at 23@24c. On the best creameries the position is not changed.

The cheese market is very dull, and the tendency is in the buyer's favor. The quotations are: Good to choice in job lots, 13@14c; round lots, 12@12½c; fair to good, 10@11c; northern factory, 12½@13½c. The Liverpool market is easy at 58s 6d.

Eggs are quiet, with the position easy at: Cape and near-by, 27@28c; eastern fresh, 26@27; eastern first, 24@25½c; northern, 21½@22c; western, 21@22½c; Nova Scotia. 22@23c; Island, 23@24c; New Brunswick, 23@23c; choice held eggs, 20@22c; limed, 18@19c. Jobbing prices are ½c above those quotations.

For Irish potatoes there is still a very fair request, with prices unchanged. Sweet potatoes are easier at $3.50 for Jersey double-head. There are very few Virginias offering.

Apples are in fair request at $1.75@2.50 for Baldwins, the latter for very fine lots; Greenings, $1.75@2.25; Hubbardstons @2.75; Northern Spies, $3@3, according to quality. These prices are for carload lots; jobbing prices would be 50c per bbl. higher.

HAY is quiet and unchanged. Straw is firm. Bran is still firm. Winter bran to arrive is quoted at $24.24, and spring at $23.75 Both are quoted in sacks.

"The Old Vegetable Pulmonary Balsam is the best cough cure in the world." Cyrus Root, S. Co., Bristol, Me.

USE
Horsford's
BREAD PREPARATION,
IF YOU WANT
Delicious Biscuit, Cakes, Etc., that can be eaten hot without detriment.

The acid phosphate in this preparation supplies the vital phosphates essential to the system, and assists digestion. No other baking powder does this.

Dr. ALFRED MITCHELL, of Brunswick, says:
"In my judgment Horsford's Bread Preparation recommends itself to general use, both on account of its unquestioned purity, which is more than guaranteed by the professional and scientific reputation of its distinguished originator, and also because it has the very important element which is lacking in other bread-raising preparations, in that it supplies the phosphates which are removed in the manufacture of our wheat flour as it is generally sold in the markets."

Dr. M. V. ADAMS, of Brunswick, says:
"For years Horsford's Bread Preparation has been used in my family, and the best results have always been obtained from it, not only in rendering the bread of a palatable nature, but as surely of a digestible form. Its property of restoring to the fine flour their lost phosphates should give it a foremost place. I have no hesitation in recommending it."

Dr. A. H. CHENEY, of Bowdoinham, says:
"I endorse the chemical principles involved in the production of Horsford's Bread Preparation.' It leaves in the bread a deposit of phosphates which the miller has extracted in taking out the bran. I know it to be as recommended."

Dr. J. C. IRISH, of Bowdoinham, says:
"Horsford's Bread Preparation, from the theory of its manufacture, ought to be a decided improvement on the other preparations in the market. The experience of those who have used it proves it to be superior to any now in use."

Dr. ISAAC S. CURTIS, of Topsham, says:
"I take pleasure in recommending Horsford's Bread Preparation for all that the manufacturers claim for it. It has been used for years in my family, and the bread is healthful, sweet and palatable."

Dr. M. K. DWINELL, of North Vassalboro, says:
"Horsford's Bread Preparation is a success, theoretically, and my housekeeper says it is the best of any preparation she has ever used."

Dr. F. A. LIBBY, of North Vassalboro, says:
"I believe that Horsford's Bread Preparation is an article of merit, and that it does all that is claimed for it."

Dr. F. L. BENEDICT, of Portsmouth, says:
"I am satisfied that Horsford's Bread Preparation does increase the nutritive value of flour, and renders the bread more digestible. Brain workers especially are greatly indebted to you for this valuable preparation."

Dr. JOHN J. BERRY, of Portsmouth, says:
"Horsford's Bread Preparation has come under my observation, and I am familiar with the testimonials of its efficiency submitted. If it really supplies to the blood and tissues the necessary salts as claimed, it is worthy of commendation and general use."

V. M. BOOTHBY, of Portland, Millers' Agent, says:
"For many years, I have used Horsford's Bread Preparation in my family. I am highly pleased with its action, as it always makes light, sweet, and palatable bread. I consider it superior to any other baking powder in the market."

Dr. GEO. W. WAY, of Portland, says:
"The theory of the preparation of Prof. Horsford's powder is good, and should be productive of the best results, especially to dyspeptics, and those with similar troubles."

Dr. G. B. SWASEY, of Portland, says:
"I consider Horsford's Bread Preparation a desirable article."

Send to Rumford Chemical Works, Providence, R. I., for Cook Book, Free.

Augusta City Market.

[CORRECTED WEEKLY FOR THE MAINE FARMER]

WEDNESDAY, Dec. 7.

APPLES—Green apples, $2 50 per bbl.; evaporated 12@c 13per lb.

BEANS—Pea beans 2 50@2 75; Yellow Eyes $1 62@1 75.

BUTTER—Good Firkin 17@18, Ball Butter 18@22c.

CHEESE—10@12c.

COTTON SEED MEAL—$1 30 per cwt.

EGGS—25c per dozen.

FLOUR—St. Louis $4 50@5 25; Patent 6 00.

GRAIN—Corn 68@70c; oats 40@44; barley 75c. Rye $1 00.

HAY—$12 00@15 00.

STRAW—Loose $6@$7; pressed $8@$10.

HONEY—Choice comb 15@16c.

HIDES AND SKINS—Cow and ox hides, 6c; bulls and stags, 4c; calf skins, 6c.

LIME AND CEMENT—Lime $1 10 per cask; cement $1 75.

LARD—Tierce 7¾@8; Dom. 8@8½c.

MEAL—Corn 68@70; rye 90@1 00.

PRODUCE—Potatoes, 80c@$1.00 per bu.; SHORTS—$1 20@1 25 per hundred.

PROVISIONS—Clear salt pork 8@9c; beef per cwt. 4½@5c; hams 12@13c; lard 10@12c; mutton 7@8c; lamb 8@8½c; veal 7@8c; chickens 12

Poetry.

The Rock Where My Mother Played.

I hear the notes of the whippoorwill,
As of old in the gathering shade;
I sit by the rock on the quiet hill
Where in girlhood my mother played.

With cheeks out-blooming the morning flowers,
And with heart as light as May,
It was here that she came in the golden hours
By the lichened rock to play.

A granite waif, by glacier borne
From a far-away northern sea;
It seemed so lonely from kindred torn,
That she kept it company.

Till all in fancy or witching dream
It shone with a glimmering light,
While fairies trooped in the moon's pale beam,
To dance through the summer night.

And such was her tender grace to me,
As we wandered the forest wild,
That over the fairies seemed to be
Her playmates when a child.

And she a Queen of the Sylphid race
On her silvery throne held sway,
But, alas! I dream of her girlish face,
And the rock is cold and gray.

For the fairies went when my mother died,
And my years were sorrowy ten;
I come to-night from wandering wide,
But they never will come again.

I love the garden and orchard old,
The meadows her footsteps pressed;
And the distant oaks that shook their gold
In the lap of their gentle guest.

I love the spring and the rippling rill,
Where in evening she often strayed;
But dearer to me the quiet hill
And the rock where my mother played.

Our Story Teller.

For the Maine Farmer.

WOMAN'S WORK.

"Leading little children, blessing manhood's years,
Toiling 'n the sinful, how God's forgiveness cheers,
Scattering dewy flowers along another's path,
Smiling by the wayside, content with what she hath.
Woman's work."

It was quite dark. One by one the street lamps were lighted, and a crowd of loafers gathered in front of a handsome building on Water street; presently its windows threw a dazzling light out into the darkness, and the crowd melted away through the open door. No need to follow the idlers, the sign over the door, "Higgins' Billiard Rooms," tells all.

On the opposite side of the street was another handsome building, half hidden by woodbine and beautiful shade trees. In front was a garden filled with choicest flowers, and in the rear, a grassy lawn sloped to the water's edge.

There was but one light in the great house, for Meda White and her father, its only occupants, always spent their evenings together in the cozy sitting room facing the street. Now that her school life was over, Meda's one thought had been to make her father's home a happy one, but to-night, as she sat at an open window, and looked across at the saloon, and heard the cures of its inmates, as they wrangled over their beer, the words of a favorite hymn seemed to speak directly to her:

"Rescue the perishing, lift up the fallen,
Snatch them in pity from sin and the grave."

"Ah yer goin' in, Bill, or what are yer hangin' round here fur?" asked one street urchin of another, as they met on the saloon steps.

"Might's well go in an' see what's the row in there," Bill responded. "There's nothin' goin' on in the street."

"Come on then, I b'lieve a knock down's on the carpet!" And the friends disappeared.

Meda closed the window, and walked restlessly up and down the room,

"And thoughts on thoughts, a countless throng
Rushed, chasing one another along."

"Father," she said, at length, "why is that groggery allowed to stand there?"

"Isn't it an ornament to our plain little town? We have few buildings with it to compare with it," Mr. White answered, smiling at her usual vehemence of manner.

"And the interior is quite as marked, judging from the sounds," she went on. "Is Higgins allowed to place temptation before men who will barter body and soul for his accursed drink?"

"Higgins pays for the privilege of selling beer."

"Does he pay for the souls he sends to perdition? Does he pay for the broken hearts of wives and mothers? What does he give to hold the curse return for her ruined husband and son? I see them every night, young boys, with eager, innocent faces, come here to his gambling den in search of amusement. Perhaps they don't drink, perhaps they don't play billiards, but they are breathing in corruption with every breath they draw. Just now I saw two boys go in there simply because they had no place else to go, 'there was nothin' goin' on in the street.' Why don't the town furnish a different place of amusement for the young? What can people think of us, when we don't they open their elegant houses, and win these wandering ones from Higgins' grasp?"

"Why don't you? You are one of them."

Meda colored at her father's words and quiet smile. "That is what I am thinking," she said. "It seems sinful for me to sit with idle hands, while these boys are perishing before my eyes. I remember that every luxury that money can buy, with time and money at my command, and how have I ever benefitted any one?"

"You do yourself injustice, dear. You forget how much your lonely father owes to your companionship. I think the public has no claim upon the time you spend with your father."

"My first duty is towards my father, but there are hours and hours of young ladies' time wasted in novel reading. Father, I mean to give a lawn party to-morrow night; I want an excuse to invite Higgins. The boys won't come in to my house at first, but if I have my friends here on the lawn, I think those two little lads can be lured in. I'll win us, and in that way I can coax them in."

"Well, well, have your own way, only don't overtax your strength."

The next evening, as Bill Frost and Ned Brown met on Higgins' steps, a young man approached, and said pleasantly, "We are having grand times over the way, better come across. Magic lanterns and games, and everything that's jolly, besides a supper to boot."

"A supper out doors?" questioned Bill, doubtfully.

"Yes, a picnic in the evening, instead of the daytime."

"I knowed the house wasn't lit up fur nothin'. So they're havin' a shindig in the garden, are they? That's what all them lanterns hung in the trees fur, and we them help."

"Come along and see for yourself. They are playing 'King George's Troops' just now."

The temptation proved too strong to be resisted, and, saying, "We kin go over an' see what's goin' on, an' ef we don't like the way the cat jumps we kin come back."

Bill led the way to Mr. White's gate, followed by Ned and Meda's ally. The company assembled on the lawn stared curiously at the strange trio.

"Invited guests!" asked one of Meda's boyish friends, archly.

"Yes," she answered, "and you will do me a favor by helping Cousin Hal amuse them. He is to introduce boisterous games on purpose for them."

"All right! I'm at the gentlemen's service for the entire evening."

At first, as strangers contented themselves with looking on, but the entertainers were so kind and informal that they soon forgot all shyness, and joined in the general frolic. Two hours passed quickly by, and supper was announced.

"Golly!" exclaimed Bill, looking over the mammoth table to which he was ushered. "Pies an' cake an' apples an' lemonade! I say, Ned, we won't want nothin' more fur a week."

After supper, Meda and Hal led the way to the parlors, where, for half an hour, their newly young voices blended with the deep, rich tones of the piano. A gas like a half hour in Paradise to the street waifs; and when the company broke up, and Meda asked them, "Will you come again to-morrow night?" they answered with an enthusiasm that more than rewarded her efforts.

"How long do you mean to keep this up?" Hal asked, when the house was still. "Am I expected to ferret out those little rag-a-muffins again to-morrow night?"

"No, thank you, I can dispense with you after this. They have taken the bait, and they'll come themselves."

And they did come the next evening and the next, and the time passed so pleasantly that it soon became a matter of course that they were to spend their evenings at Miss White's, instead of at the bar room. Meda seemed little less than an angel to them. To them she sang her sweetest songs; to them she told her most touching stories; for them she played her choicest music.

"How is it that you are teaching in the Sabbath School?" asked Hal, three months later.

"Well, my boys discovered that I have a talent for teaching, and I thought I had no right to bury it. That is the way it happened: They went to a concert with me one Sunday night, and they liked it so well that they said they would attend Sabbath School if I would teach them, so I really had no choice."

"But how can you amuse the little Arabs night after night? I should think they would tire of your monotonous games."

"No, I vary the programme occasionally. I get new pictures, new books and new games. At first they brought a pack of dirty cards and asked me to play 'High-or-low-Jack, (is that the name?) but I interested them in more reputable games after a time. When all else fails, I take them into the kitchen, and let them help me pop corn or make molasses candy. Sometimes they bring their mates, and of late my rooms have been so crowded that I begin to think I shall have to get other quarters for them. Don't you want to teach in an evening school, Hal? Of course we can't afford to hire teachers, but there are scores of young men, who, like yourself, have plenty of leisure. Won't you, for one, give, say one evening a week? Now think before you answer, think how many children are growing up in ignorance. Those who come here are factory hands, and couldn't attend the day school if they were so inclined. I am teaching Bill and Ned to read, and I want you to help carry on the work I have begun."

"Don't take all the credit to yourself, Miss Medie. I have bestowed more smiles on your little scapegraces than I thought I possessed. They may be no better nor wiser for my grimaces, but you must take the will for the deed. It makes a fellow's face ache to twist it into unnatural shapes."

"Confirm your words, sir! If you have the will, you will do something besides smile."

"'Tis a challenge, sir, is it not? 'Tis an invitation to the field.' I can withstand anything but that. I'll prove to you that I'm as good as my word. I have some influence with the fellows, and I think I can safely promise you half a dozen besides your humble servant, Harland White. If we succeed, perhaps the town will give us the use of the high school building. "For the present 'Hope' is our motto, and I'll make a schoolmaster yet."

Years have passed away, and the evening school is no longer a hope for the future. Through Meda's efforts, the town has been awakened to the necessity of educating the masses, and long since voted to defray the expense of an evening school for boys and girls who work six days out of seven. Like changes have taken place in the lives of Bill and Ned. At an distance of Bill hopes to enter the ministry. At present he is at college, striving to show his benefactress that her efforts in his behalf were not in vain.

Edward Brown, LL. D., is practicing in the town of his birth. His first case was against Higgins, of bar room fame. "Indicted for selling to minors," ran around the court room as the accused came forward. The complainant was a poor Irish boy of fifteen years, and as the young lawyer looked at his tattered dress and heard the old, old story, the memory of the poisonous cup proffered to his own boyish lips, gave his words a pathos that touched all hearts. Higgins was convicted, and sentenced to six months in the county jail. When, at the end of his term, he returned to the old stand, he found public opinion no longer in his favor. Meda's hopes were being realized. The W. C. T. U. was doing its work. Almost every child in the town wore a blue ribbon in his button hole. Rapidly the liquor traffic waned, and soon "For Sale," was nailed on the door of the only saloon in the town. The W. C. T. U. counted over its funds, and made Higgins' palace its own. The old sign is gone, and another, "Temperance," in letters of loyal blue, hangs in its stead. When Bill comes home on his vacations, he and Ned always spend one evening with Meda and her blue ribbon army, in the rooms where they took their first and last glass.

M. E. J.

Choice Miscellany.

For the Maine Farmer.

The Christian's Death Song.

BY BELGRADE'S UNKNOWN.

The dying Christian lay on his bed,
The tide of life ebbed low;
His soul from its prison had nearly fled,
And yet it seemed loth to go.

A marble-like pallor was on his cheek,
A film was gathering o'er his eye,
His once strong voice was faint and weak,
But he was not afraid to die.

E'en as he died, he tried to sing
A song that he had oft sung of yore;
And though his voice had none of manhood's ring,
The song was echoed on Heaven's shore.

As he sang, he seemed to grow strong,
And it otherwise could not well be,
For his song was the beautiful, undying song,
"Nearer, my God, to Thee."

He sung 'till his breath was wafted away,
By the breeze that blows from the unknown sea;
And the spirit of him left behind, he lay
"Nearer, my God, to Thee."

The savage may have his wild song of death
As tortures hurl him into eternity,
But no grander song could not well be,
Than, "Nearer, my God, to Thee."

Fort Western.

A few rods below the easterly end of the Kennebec bridge in Augusta, upon a point of land which is growing smaller year by year on account of the encroachments of the river, stands an old and somewhat singularly shaped and constructed building. It is long and low, and bears unmistakable evidence of antiquity. It is known in Augusta as "The Fort," but there are many people who have lived there all their lives, who call it so called, and notwithstanding it is described in North's History of Augusta, published less than a score of years ago, and half the people now see it are aware that that building is a portion of a defensive work erected here a hundred and thirty-three years ago, and known as "Fort Western."

As I stood in front of this venerable edifice this morning, my thoughts were naturally turned back to the time when it was built, and the circumstances which made such a defence necessary. The point of land upon which it stands, projects somewhat into the Kennebec, and looking downward, a long stretch of the river can be seen, with the modern "Stapleton" upon the north bank, and the Arsenal grounds and Insane Hospital lands upon the left. An interest attaches to this little point of land, entirely unconnected with its defensive works, and long antedating their construction. The French Jesuit Biard came from Port Royal, and taught the Canabas Indians here, before the Pilgrims landed at Plymouth, and afterwards Dreuillette came through the forest from Quebec, and established a mission here. On this point, too, a trading post was established in 1628. There is therefore, a glamour about this spot which attaches to no other in all this region, and as I stood there this morning, in the pale November sunlight, I seemed to see the birchen boats freighted with dusky occupancy of this peninsula cup glanced to his own boyish lips, gave his words a pathos that touched all hearts. Higgins was convicted, and sentenced to six months in the county jail. When, at the end of his term, he returned to the old stand, he found public opinion no longer in his favor. Meda's hopes were being realized. The W. C. T. U. was doing its work. Almost every child in the town wore a blue ribbon in his button hole. Rapidly the liquor traffic waned, and soon "For Sale," was nailed on the door of the only saloon in the town. The W. C. T. U. counted over its funds, and made Higgins' palace its own. The old sign is gone, and another, "Temperance," in letters of loyal blue, hangs in its stead. When Bill comes home on his vacations, he and Ned always spend one evening with Meda and her blue ribbon army, in the rooms where they took their first and last glass.

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